

TOWN OF ASHLAND
NEW HAMPSHIRE
ANNUAL REPORT



2003

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY CALL 9 1 1

BE SURE TO GIVE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, AS WELL AS THE NATURE OF YOUR EMERGENCY; DO NOT HANG UP UNTIL YOU ARE SURE THAT YOUR MESSAGE HAS BEEN UNDERSTOOD.

INFORMATION DIRECTORY FOR THE TOWN OF ASHLAND

Email – toash@worldpath.net

Web site – www.ashland.nh.gov

FOR ANSWERS ONCALL:

Administration	Administrative Asst.	968-4432
Assessments	Town Office	968-4432
Building Permits	• Building Inspector	968-4432
Burn Permits	Fire Station	968-7772
Dogs – Licensing	Town Clerk	968-4432
Dogs – At Large	Police Department	968-4000
Elections	Town Clerk	968-4432
Voter Registration	Town Clerk	968-4432
Electric Service	Utility Office	968-3083
Health Complaints/Inspections		968-4432
Library	Town Library	968-7928
Vehicle Registration	Town Clerk	968-4432
Planning Board	Town Office	968-4432
Police – NON-Emergency		968-4000
Parks and Recreation	Booster Club	968-9209
Recycling	Transfer Station	968-9032
Road Maintenance	Road Agent	968-3166
School Registration	Elementary K-8	968-7622
	High School 9-12	536-1444
Taxes	Tax Collector	968-4432
Vital Records	Town Clerk	968-4432
Water/Sewer	Utility Office	968-4002
Welfare	Welfare Director	968-4432
Zoning/Land Use	Zoning Board	968-4432

Ashland Community Center – Food Pantry 968-9698

Pemi Baker Home Health Agency 536-2232

2003

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DEDICATION



MARY RUELL

It is with great pleasure that we dedicate this 2003 Town Report to our fellow citizen – Mary Ruell.

Mary can be best described as a caring, diligent and persistent person. The combination of these characteristics has resulted in the tremendous accomplishments that Mary has achieved.

Mary first came to Ashland to teach at Ashland High School, then returning to Ashland in 1949 after marrying Laurent J. "Joe" Ruell to live and raise their five children.

The following is a list of organizations and activities that Mary is, or has been, involved in during her tenure here in Ashland. The Town of Ashland has many tangible attributes as a result of Mary's contribution.

THANK YOU MARY FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE

- Ashland Historical Society
- Ashland Garden Club
- Ashland Community Center
- Ashland Woman's Club
- St. Agnes Church
- 4th of July Committee
- Memorial Park Trustee
- Local Correspondent for
Record Enterprise
- Plymouth Community Closet
- Pemi-Baker Home Health
and Hospice
- FISH
- American Cancer Society
- NH Committee on Aging
- Lakes Region Retired
Educators
- NH Retired Educators
- League of NH Craftsmen
- Former Member of the
Ashland School Board
- Squam River Covered Bridge
Committee
- Town Committees on
Recycling, Elderly
Exemptions, Budget
Committee, Tennis Court
fundraising
- Youth at Risk Committee
- State School Board
Association

WE REMEMBER.....

I'd like the memory of me
to be a happy one,
I'd like to leave an afterglow
of smiles when life is done
I'd like to leave an echo
whispering softly down the ways,
of happy times and laughing
times and bright and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who
grieve, to dry before the sun
of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

WITH FOND MEMORIES WE REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US THIS PAST YEAR

Brigid Kilfoyle
Walter J. Boynton
James E. Sargent
Virginia S. Stack
Margaret "Peg" Dobbie
Katherine J. Harriman
Richard C. Beaulieu
Leonard "Pee Wee" Duguay
Alfonse Bersuch
Mary Bartlett
Hazel George
Alphonse Vaillant

E. Davis Woodbury
Rita Illsley
Maxim "Babe" Dame
Mary E. Small
Kevin G. Crowley
Dustyn J. White
Eva M. Donoghue
Timothy Perry
Harold D. Keniston
Florianne E. Levasseur
Mark D. Storey

BOARDS AND OFFICIALS 2003

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NEALE BAVIS 2004
GERARD "JERRY" CHOUINARD 2005
CAROLINE GOSSE 2006

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

ANNE ABEAR

OFFICE SECRETARY

LAURA PLUMMER

TOWN PLANNER

ELLISON BADGER

TAX COLLECTOR

PATRICIA TUCKER

LAURA PLUMMER - DEPUTY

TOWN CLERK

PATRICIA TUCKER

LAURA PLUMMER - DEPUTY

TOWN TREASURER

LINDA GUYOTTE

LINDA EASTMAN - DEPUTY

TOWN MODERATOR

GLENN DION

TOWN TRUSTEES

EDWARD DUPUIS

RICHARD OGDEN

RICHARD PARE

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

JILL MUDGETT

ANGELA BELLAMY

ALICE STAPLES

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

DOUGLAS OBER

BEVERLY OBER

MARIANNE REINHOLZ

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

MARK OBER - ROAD AGENT

TIMOTHY PAQUETTE

PAIGE MORRILL

PARK AND RECREATION DIRECTOR

JESSICA BICKFORD - RESIGNED

PATTY HEINZ - INTERIM

JAMES R. GLEICH

ASHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF JOSEPH CHIVELL II

LT. DONALD MARREN

SGT. JOSEPH MCCOMISKEY

PATROLMAN RYAN OLESON - RESIGNED

PATROLMAN EDWARD J SAMSON III

PATROLMAN ADAM GLEESON

PATROLMAN MICHAEL BROWN

SPEC. JEREMY HALLETT

SPEC. DANIEL HAMILTON

SPEC. RYAN KELLY

SPEC. CHRISTOPHER PAQUETTE

SPEC. MELISSA SMIALEK

SPEC. GARRETT WRIGHT

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION REP

FRANK STEVENS

BUDGET COMMITTEE

KENDALL B HUGHES

JOHN C. HUGHES

JOANNE SULLIVAN

JAMES GOSSE

SANDRA COLEMAN

DANIEL SULLIVAN

ANN MARIE REEVER

DAVID RUELL

DOUGLAS OBER

PAMELA OBER

JOAN EVERSOLE

ROBIN FISK

NEALE BAVIS - SELECTMAN

HELEN KNOWLTON - SCHOOL BOARD

ROBERT MARGESON - SCHOOL BOARD

HEALTH OFFICER

CARLTON ABEAR

RUSSELL CROSS JR. - DEPUTY

FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

CHIEF N. SCOTT WEDEN

1ST DEPUTY DAVID PAQUETTE

2ND DEPUTY THOMAS STEWART

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

LEE V. NICHOLS - SUPERINTENDENT

NATHAN TATE

JOE VITTUM

LINDA PACK - OFFICE MANAGER

WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

RUSSELL CROSS JR.

RICK NOBLEY

KAY MUDGETT - OFFICE

PATRICIA FLIGG

PEMI-BAKER HOME HEALTH AGENCY REP

GAIL LARY

ALT CHRIS WEDEN

AT LARGE MARY RUELL

ZONING BOARD

MARK HORMELL

ROBERT BOYLE - RESIGNED

JAMES ALBA

MICHAEL LEMBO

ELAINE ALLARD

PLANNING BOARD

ALAN CILLEY - RESIGNED

FRANK STEVENS

JEFF BELYEA

ROBERT BOYLE

GORDON MCCORMACK JR

TRACY BLANCHARD

ROBERT MOORE - ALTERNATE

GERARD CHOUINARD - SELECTMAN

2006

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TOWN MECHANIC

LEE HUCKINS

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

ASHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEMORIAL PARK TRUSTEES

MARY RUELL 2006

MARION MERRILL 2006

ERNEST HUTTER 2005

PHILIP PRESTON 2005

PEMI BAKER SOLID WASTE

MARK OBER 2006

HOUSING STANDARDS BOARD

ELAINE HUGHES 2005

GREG BAVIS 2005

ELLISON BADGER 2005

ASHLAND FIRE CHIEF

ASHLAND HEALTH OFFICER

SAFETY COMMITTEE

PAIGE MORRILL 2006

BRAD OBER 2006

ANNE ABEAR 2005

DONALD MARREN 2005

TIMOTHY PAQUETTE 2005

ELECTRIC COMMISSIONERS

ERNEST HUTTER 2004

RAYMOND KNOWLTON 2005

MELVIN HOLLAND 2006

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

JEN ALBA - JERRY CHOUINARD - LORI CUSHING

JIM GOSSE - BARBARA SHARROW

HELEN KNOWLTON - DIANA GREEN

Representatives - District 16

Andrew L. Dorsett - PO Box 360 - Ashland, 03217

Margie Maybeck - PO Box 62 - Holderness 03245

Burton W. Williams - 222 Cardigan Mtn. Road - Bristol 03222

Senator - District 2

Carl R. Johnson - 42 Dale Road - Meredith 03253

WELFARE DIRECTOR

ROBERT HICKS

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

N. SCOTT WEDEN

SCRIBNER MEMORIAL TRUSTEES

SAMUEL NORMAN 2005

DANIEL GOLDEN 2006

BUILDING INSPECTOR

ROBERT HICKS 2005

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

FRANK MURDOCK

PLUMBING INSPECTOR

JERRY BRIDGHAM

HISTORIC COMMISSION

ROBERT HICKS 2005

CLAIRE HICKS 2005

GRAFTON COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ELLISON BADGER

DEPUTY FIRE WARDENS

GREG BAVIS - CHARLES FOUTS

STEPHEN HEATH - BRAD OBER - SCOTT WEDEN

DAVE PAQUETTE - JEFF UHLMAN - TOM STEWART

WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS

ERNEST PAQUETTE 2004

ROBERT BOYLE 2005

DANIEL GOLDEN 2006

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

GORDON VITTUM 2006

DANIEL GOLDEN 2005

JAMES GROVER 2005

RUTH KNAPP 2005

ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2003

Submitted by Neale Bavis, Gerard Chouinard, Caroline Gosse

The Town of Ashland was full of activity this year from a large road project to the beach wall construction.

The Highway Department, under the direction of Mark W. Ober, saw the road repairs along Peppercorn Road, Valley Lane, Partridge Lane, Owl Brook Road, Prospect Street, Summer Street and Highland Street. Through the \$400,000 bond that was passed at the 2003 town meeting and Mark's dedication to stay within the budget, these roads are now just about complete and make for a much smoother ride home for the residents on that end of town. Additionally, the Board had the opportunity of recognizing Mark for his 30 years of dedicated service to the community of Ashland.

We saw a change in staff this year at the Ashland Transfer/Recycling Center. Both Nancy Russell and Carroll "Butch" Cote left us and we thank them for their efforts and hard work during the time they were with the Town. We welcomed two new employees, Donald Porell and Daniel Thompson. Please remember that the Town of Ashland mandates recycling and that everyone must do his or her fair share. The more you recycle the less it will cost everyone.

The Parks and Recreation Department saw several changes in personnel after Jessica Bickford left her employment with the town in April. We would like to thank the following individuals who stepped up to the plate to insure that the programs for Park and Recreation continued with minimal interruption – Kathleen Burgess for keeping the after school program going and Patricia Heinz for stepping in and ensuring that the summer program was a success. In October, James Gleich was hired as our new director and is doing a great job. The beach wall renovation is just about complete and is anticipated to be a great addition to all who use the beach in the coming years. The campground was not filled to its capacity in the year 2003, but every site is rented for the year 2004. A special thanks to Jerry Chouinard

and Laura Plummer for watching over the campground in 2003 and working to have the campground rented to its full potential for 2004!

The Board cannot thank one resident in particular enough for his work on the Campground Bath House. Jeff Belyea took the task upon himself to ensure it would be open before the start of the 2003 camping season. Many long hours and hard work without pay were given up by Jeff to make this a reality.

The Fire Department, under the direction of Chief Scott Weden, saw a dramatic increase in calls over prior years and has advised that this is only the beginning. Although a ladder truck is stated to be needed by Chief Weden, the board has had to hold tight on the budgets and again will not be putting in for a fire truck in the year 2004.

The Police Department, under the direction of Chief Joseph Chivell, continues to serve and protect our community. We presently have five highly qualified officers who are doing an outstanding job with one position remaining open for a complete department to be developed.

Throughout the year, the Board has taken the opportunity to start the mundane task of updating its personnel policies that have not been review or updated since 1996.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Department Heads, Town Employees, members of Town Boards, Commissions and Committees for their cooperation and assistance in managing town affairs during 2003. We would like to thank the town residents for their support. We would encourage any resident that may have a concern on any Town issue to please contact the Town Office or attend a Selectmen's Meeting.

**Town of Ashland
State of New Hampshire
Minutes of Deliberative Session – February 1, 2003**

According to the legally posted Town Warrant the meeting was called to order by Moderator Glenn Dion at 1:00 PM at the Ashland School Gymnasium. A moment of silence was observed for the crew of the *Columbia*. Town meeting officials present were Moderator Glenn Dion, Town Clerk Patricia Tucker, Selectmen Neale Bavis, James Cole, Gerard Chouinard, Administrative Assistant Anne Abear and Attorney Walter Mitchell. The Budget Committee was represented by David Ruell, Ann Marie Reeve, Sandra Coleman, Helen Knowlton and James Gosse.

The Moderator read the following warrant articles:

Article 1:

To choose all of the following officers for the year ensuing:

- Board of Selectmen – 3 year term
- Town Treasurer – 1 year term
- Town Trustee – 3 year term
- Library Trustee – 3 year term
- Library Trustee – 1 year term
- Budget Committee Member – 3 year term (4 positions)
- Budget Committee Member – 2 year term (2 positions)
- Electric Commissioner – 3 year term
- Water & Sewer Commissioner – 3 year term

The candidates for the election of officers were announced.

Article 2:

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) for the purpose of maintaining and repairing Town Roads and to authorize the issuance of not more than Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) of bonds or notes; further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and to take all other actions reasonably necessary to give effect to this appropriation. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (3/5-majority vote required)

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 3:

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the existing Police, Fire and Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund and to transfer the funds in the amount of \$11,122.80 plus interest to date into the present Capital Reserve Fund known as the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (2/3 vote required)

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 4:

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the amount of nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) to be placed in the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required).

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 5:

To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the State Employees Association of New Hampshire SEIU Local 1984, AFL-CIO, CLC, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits: Year 2003 \$9,679; Year 2004 \$13,244; Year 2005 \$13,642 ; Year 2006 \$14,052; Year 2007 \$14,473 and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,679 for the current year, such sum representing the additional cost attributed to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required)

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 6:

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$93,652 for the purpose of repairing the Edward N. Doggett Beach. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required).

Amendment presented by Neale Bavis, seconded by Gerard Chouinard, to change the figure of \$93,652 to \$87,725.

The amendment was discussed and passed by voice vote. The article will appear on the ballot as amended.

Article 7:

To see if the Town will authorize the selectmen to enter into a 4 year lease/purchase agreement for the purpose of leasing and outfitting a police 4x4 for the Ashland Police Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,326 as the first year's lease payment. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article.

James Cole moved to amend this article by removing the entire article from the warrant and add the figure back into the line item budget. There was no second, the proposed amendment was ruled out of order.

James Cole moved to amend this article to change \$7,326 to \$0.00, the amendment was seconded and discussion followed. The amendment and the second were withdrawn following the discussion.

The article will appear on the ballot as originally written.

Article 8:

Shall the Town of Ashland raise and appropriate as an operating budget not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$4,944,619? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$4,979,201 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Ashland or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required).

Neale Bavis moved to amend the article to change the \$4,944,619 to \$4,960, 219, James Cole seconded. Following discussion, the amendment passed by voice vote.

Article 9:

Are you in favor of changing the Ashland Fire Department's present first aid only ambulance service to a full transport service to facilitate conveying patients to the hospital? Non-Binding article.

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 10:

To See if the Town Meeting will authorize the Board of Selectmen to contract, survey, engineer, and study the problems with regard to the need for dredging areas of Squam River that are making navigation hazardous and take action to alleviate those problems; and to coordinate the State and Federal resources, and the US Army Corps of Engineers to accomplish the intent of this Article and that the sum of \$10,000 be and hereby is appropriated for this purpose; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for whatever grants, State or Federal funds that may be available to accomplish the purpose of this Article or take any other actions that may be appropriate. PETITIONED ARTICLE. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article. (Majority vote required)

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 11:

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of its Boards, Commissioners, Committees and Officers for the year 2002 subject to corrections of errors when and if found. (Majority Vote Required).

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 12:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the prepayment of property taxes and authorize the Tax Collector to accept such prepayment as provided by RSA 80:52-a. (Majority Vote Required)

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 13: This article will appear on the *Official Ballot for Proposed Zoning Changes*.

Question 1:

To see what action the town will take on the following proposed amendment to the town's zoning ordinance.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board to clarify Article 3.5, the definition of a junkyard, and the remedies of violation? The amendment clarifies the definition of a junkyard and states the process for rectifying the violation. (Majority Vote Required)

Question 2:

To see what action the town will take on the following proposed amendment to the town's zoning ordinance.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board to clarify Article 3.3? This amendment clarifies the procedure for non-residential signs and establishes an enforcement procedure. (Majority Vote Required)

Question 3:

To see what action the town will take on the following proposed amendment to the town's zoning ordinance.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the planning board to clarify Articles 2.2f, 2.3c and 2.3 c(f). This amendment clarifies wording and defines the Little Squam and Squam River Overlay District. (Majority Vote Required)

The article was read and discussed. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 14:

Are you in favor of increasing the board of selectmen to 5 members? Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 15:

Shall we rescind the provisions of RSA 40:13 known as (SB 2) as adopted by the Town of Ashland on March 9, 1999, so that the Official Ballot will no longer be used for voting on all questions, but only for the election of officers and certain other questions for which the Official Ballot is required by State Law? Petitioned Article (3/5 vote required)

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 16:

Whereas, New Hampshire residents pay the 12th highest cost for insurance in the country; and
Whereas, the cost of health insurance premiums for families has increased by 45% over the past three years; and
Whereas, 100,000 New Hampshire residents have no health coverage and 77% of them have a full-time worker at home; and
Whereas, due to these rising costs almost half of New Hampshire's small businesses cannot afford health coverage for their employees, therefore be it resolved

That we, the citizens of Ashland, New Hampshire call on our elected officials from all levels of government and those seeking office, to work with customers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure that:

- Everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed, un- and underinsured, and small business owners has access to an affordable basic health plan similar to what federal employees receive;
- Everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible and fair contribution to finance the health care system;
- Everyone receives high quality care that is cost efficient and medically effective; and
- That these help control the skyrocketing cost of healthcare.

The article was read, discussed and no amendments were made. The article will appear on the ballot as written.

Article 17:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Water-Sewer Commissioners to act as agents for the Town of Ashland to convey to the Town of New Hampton for \$1 (one dollar) by quitclaim deed, the Jackson Pond Dam, the Reservoir Dam, the eleven (11) acres of land from Jackson Pond Dam and certain rights of way over said land and certain rights of flowage and drainage bordering on Jackson Pond in the Town of New Hampton, including the former maintenance building at the Reservoir Dam, in "as is" condition, with no warranty. Should the Town of New Hampton decline, the Commissioners shall be agents authorized to convey the property to any other interested party on such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate to the Commissioners. All costs of conveying this real estate (e.g. title work, survey, closing expense) shall be paid by the purchaser.

If the Commissioners are not successful in finding a party to take the ownership of this property the Commissioners shall be authorized to seek from the State of New Hampshire permission to breach the Jackson Pond Dam.

Ann Reeve moved to amend this article by removing the entire second paragraph, a second was made, discussed followed, the motion was defeated.

David Ruell moved and was seconded to amend the article by adding wording at the end of the second sentence so that it shall read *"Should the Town of New Hampton decline, the Commissioners shall be agents authorized to convey the property to any other interested party on such terms and conditions as deem appropriate to the Commissioners, provided the purchaser shall have the means and ability to maintain the dams and shall assume all liability for their maintenance"* and add to the last sentence the word *"suitable"* so that it shall read *"If the Commissioners are not successful in finding a suitable party to take the ownership of the property, the Commissioners shall be authorized to seek from the State of New Hampshire permission to breach the Jackson Pond dam."*

Following discussion the motion to amend failed by voice vote.

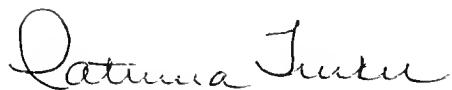
No more amendments were made, the article will appear on the ballot as originally written.

Article 18:

To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Neale Bavis recognized James A. Cole for his service to the town for the past three years as a member of the Board of Selectmen.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.



Patricia Tucker
Ashland Town Clerk
February 1, 2003

ASHLAND OFFICIAL BALLOTING DAY
MARCH 11, 2003

In accordance with the legally posted warrant, the polls were open by Moderator Pro Tem Philip Preston at 9 AM. It was announced that the absentee ballots would be cast at 1PM and the polls would not close before 7PM.

Election officials present during the day were Moderator Pro Tem Philip Preston, Moderator Pro Tem Dorothee Crofton, Town Clerk Patricia Tucker, Selectmen Gerard Chouinard, Selectman Neale Bavis, Selectman James Cole, Supervisors of the Checklist Douglas Ober, Beverly Ober, Maryann Reinholz, Ballot Clerks Margaret Duguay, Josephine Brown, Mary Ruell, and David Ruell.

Town Clerk Patricia Tucker swore in the new officials.

The following ballot counters were sworn in by Town Clerk Patricia Tucker - Anne Abear, David Ruell, Mary Ruell, Jeffrey Belyea, Ellison Badger, Mardean Badger.

Number of Registered Voters	983
New Registered on Election Day	3
Total Registered Voters	986
Number of Voters on 3/11/03	372
Percentage	37%

OFFICIAL BALLOT
2003 ANNUAL TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION
ASHLAND, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 11, 2003

Patricia Tucker
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice (s) like this: ☐
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

<p style="text-align: center;">SELECTMEN</p> <p>3 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>GLENN DION 169</p> <p>CAROLINE GOSSE 194</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ELECTRIC COMMISSIONER</p> <p>3 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>MELVIN C. HOLLAND 332</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ASHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION OF OFFICES</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TOWN TREASURER</p> <p>1 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>LINDA D. GUYOTTE 340</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WATER AND SEWER COMMISSIONER</p> <p>3 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>DANIEL P. GOLDEN 314</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD</p> <p>3 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>ROBERT L. MARGESON 269</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TOWN TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS</p> <p>3 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>EDWARD A. DUPUIS 324</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BUDGET COMMITTEE</p> <p>3 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR FOUR</p> <p>JAMES A. GOSSE 281</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ASHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT MODERATOR</p> <p>1 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">LIBRARY TRUSTEE</p> <p>3 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>JILL MUDGETT 316</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BUDGET COMMITTEE</p> <p>2 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR TWO</p> <p>SANDRA ANN COLEMAN 266</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ASHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER</p> <p>1 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>LINDA D. GUYOTTE 326</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">LIBRARY TRUSTEE</p> <p>1 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p>DIANE GALLIEN 141</p> <p>ALICE STAPLES 160</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">ASHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK</p> <p>1 YEAR TERM VOTE FOR ONE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Write-in)</p>

ARTICLES

Article 2:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) for the purpose of maintaining and repairing Town Roads and to authorize the issuance of not more than Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) of bonds or notes; further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and to take all other actions reasonably necessary to give effect to this appropriation? The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (3/5-majority vote required)

YES 252
NO 100

Article 3:

Shall the Town vote to discontinue the existing Police, Fire and Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund and to transfer the funds in the amount of \$11,122 80 plus interest to date into the present Capital Reserve Fund known as the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund? The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (2/3 vote required)

YES 271
NO 76

Article 4:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the amount of nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) to be placed in the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund? The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required).

YES 250
NO 99

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 5:

Shall the Town vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Board of Selectmen and the State Employees Association of New Hampshire SEIU Local 1984, AFL-CIO, CLC, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits: Year 2003 \$9,679; Year 2004 \$13,244; Year 2005 \$13,642 ; Year 2006 \$14,052; Year 2007 \$14,473 and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,679 for the current year, such sum representing the additional cost attributed to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year? The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required)

YES 208
NO 142

Article 6:

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$87,725 for the purpose of repairing the Edward N. Doggett Beach? The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. (Majority Vote Required).

YES 199
NO 160

Article 7:

Shall the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 4 year lease/purchase agreement for the purpose of leasing and outfitting a police 4x4 for the Ashland Police Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,326 as the first year's lease payment? The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article.

YES 126
NO 220

Article 8:

Shall the Town of Ashland vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$4,960,219? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$4,979,201 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Ashland or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required).

YES 255
NO 90

Article 9:

Are you in favor of changing the Ashland Fire Department's present first aid only ambulance service to a full transport service to facilitate conveying patients to the hospital? Non-Binding article.

YES 171
NO 186

Article 10:

Shall the Town Meeting authorize the Board of Selectmen to contract, survey, engineer, and study the problems with regard to the need for dredging areas of Squam River that are making navigation hazardous and take action to alleviate those problems; and to coordinate the State and Federal resources, and the US Army Corps of Engineers to accomplish the intent of this Article and that the sum of \$10,000 be and hereby is appropriated for this purpose; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for whatever grants, State or Federal funds that may be available to accomplish the purpose of this Article or take any other actions that may be appropriate? PETITIONED ARTICLE. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article. (Majority vote required)

YES 135
NO 218

Article 11:

Shall the Town accept the reports of its Boards, Commissioners, Committees and Officers for the year 2002 subject to corrections of errors when and if found? (Majority Vote Required).

YES 322
NO 25

Article 12:

Shall the Town vote to authorize the prepayment of property taxes and authorize the Tax Collector to accept such prepayment as provided by RSA 80:52-a? (Majority Vote Required)

YES 297
NO 43

Article 13: *This article will appear on the Official Ballot for Proposed Zoning Changes.*

YES ☐
NO ☐

Article 14:

Are you in favor of increasing the Board of Selectmen to 5 members? Recommended by the Board of Selectmen.

YES 254
NO 106

Article 15:

Shall we rescind the provisions of RSA 40:13 known as (SB 2) as adopted by the Town of Ashland on March 9, 1999, so that the Official Ballot will no longer be used for voting on all questions, but only for the election of officers and certain other questions for which the Official Ballot is required by State Law? Petitioned Article (3/5 majority vote required)

YES 140
NO 207

GO TO NEXT BALLOT TO CONTINUE VOTING

OFFICIAL BALLOT
2003 ANNUAL TOWN AND SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION
ASHLAND, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 11, 2003

Patricia Luter
TOWN CLERK

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 16:

Whereas, New Hampshire residents pay the 12th highest cost for insurance in the country and Whereas, the cost of health insurance premiums for families has increased by 45% over the past three years; and Whereas, 100,000 New Hampshire residents have no health coverage and 77% of them have a full-time worker at home; and Whereas, due to these rising costs almost half of New Hampshire's small businesses cannot afford health coverage for their employees, therefore be it resolved

YES 267

That we, the citizens of Ashland, New Hampshire call on our elected officials from all levels of government and those seeking office, to work with customers, businesses, and health care providers to ensure that:

NO 63

- Everyone, including the self-employed, unemployed, un- and underinsured, and small business owners has access to an affordable basic health plan similar to what federal employees receive.
- Everyone, including employers, consumers, and the state, local and federal government makes a responsible and fair contribution to finance the health care system;
- Everyone receives high quality care that is cost efficient and medically effective, and
- That these help control the skyrocketing cost of healthcare.

Article 17:

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Water-Sewer Commissioners to act as agents for the Town of Ashland to convey to the Town of New Hampton for \$1 (one dollar) by quitclaim deed, the Jackson Pond Dam, the Reservoir Dam, the eleven (11) acres of land from Jackson Pond Dam and certain rights of way over said land and certain rights of flowage and drainage bordering on Jackson Pond in the Town of New Hampton, including the former maintenance building at the Reservoir Dam, in "as is" condition, with no warranty? Should the Town of New Hampton decline, the Commissioners shall be agents authorized to convey the property to any other interested party on such terms and conditions as deemed appropriate to the Commissioners. All costs of conveying this real estate (e.g. title work, survey, closing expense) shall be paid by the purchaser

YES 251

NO 73

If the Commissioners are not successful in finding a party to take the ownership of this property the Commissioners shall be authorized to seek from the State of New Hampshire permission to breach the Jackson Pond Dam.

PEMI-BAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

MODERATOR <small>(1-Year Term) Vote for one</small> <hr/> QUENTIN BLAINE 262 <hr/> <small>(Write-in)</small>	SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FROM CAMPTON <small>(3-Year Term) Vote for one</small> <hr/> LISA ASH 276 <hr/> <small>(Write-in)</small>	SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FROM PLYMOUTH <small>(3-Year Term) Vote for one</small> <hr/> BARBARA A. NOYES 264 <hr/> <small>(Write-in)</small>
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FROM ASHLAND <small>(3-Year Term) Vote for one</small> <hr/> CATHERINE E. HAHN 298 <hr/> <small>(Write-in)</small>	SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FROM HOLDERNESS <small>(3-Year Term) Vote for one</small> <hr/> ANDREW C. HANCOCK 250 <hr/> <small>(Write-in)</small>	SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER FROM THORNTON <small>(3-Year Term) Vote for one</small> <hr/> ROBERT MACLEOD 248 <hr/> <small>(Write-in)</small>

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 1: Shall the School District authorize the School Board to negotiate and execute such tuition contracts as the board may determine advisable for students inside or outside the Pemi-Baker Regional School District? The School Board **recommends** this article.

YES 262
NO 62

Article 2: Shall the School District vote to establish a contingency fund in accordance with Revised Statutes Annotated 198:4-b, such contingency fund to meet the cost of unanticipated expenses that may arise during the year and, further, shall the District raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for such contingency fund? The School Board **recommends** this appropriation.

YES 168
NO 142

Article 3: Shall the School District vote to authorize and empower the School Board to borrow up to two hundred fifteen thousand dollars (\$215,000) representing a portion of the State of New Hampshire's share of special education costs for the 2003-2004 school year, pursuant to RSA 198:20-d upon such terms and conditions as the School Board determines in the best interests of the District; said sum together with the costs of borrowing to be repaid by the State of New Hampshire pursuant to RSA 198:20-d; or to take any action in relation thereto? The School Board **recommends** this appropriation.

YES 187
NO 126

Article 4: Shall the School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred seventy five thousand dollars (\$175,000) for the purpose of the construction of a soccer field on land owned by the School District. The School Board **recommends** this article.

YES 123
NO 187

Article 5: Shall the School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Pemi-Baker Regional School Board and the Plymouth Cooperative Education Association which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

Year	Estimated Increase
2003-2004	\$ 165,017
2004-2005	\$ 164,976
2005-2006	\$ 207,001

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred sixty-five thousand seventeen dollars (\$165,017) for the 2003-2004 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional costs attributed to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. The School Board **recommends** this article.

YES 152
NO 160

Article 6: Shall the School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session (deliberative session) for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$12,181,778 (twelve million one hundred eighty-one thousand seven hundred seventy-eight dollars). This sum excludes the sums in warrant articles 2, 4 and 5. The School Board **recommends** this article.

(Should this article be deleted, the operating budget shall be either \$12,041,076 (twelve million forty-one thousand seventy-six dollars), which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Pemi-Baker Regional School District or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.)

YES 179
NO 136

Article 7: Whereas NH School Districts face ever tightening budgets; and Whereas NH School Districts are finding it increasingly difficult to raise and appropriate sufficient dollars on the local level to provide their students a quality education; and Whereas newly enacted and existing federal mandates have placed an undue and heavy financial burden on local school district budgets;

Be It Therefore resolved: That the voters of the District oppose any and all unfunded and under-funded federal educational mandates, including but not limited to, those contained in the recently enacted No Child Left Behind Law as well as those mandates historically unfunded within the IDEA/Special Education Laws. The School Board **recommends** this article.

YES 245
NO 69

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR
PROPOSED ZONING ORDINANCE CHANGES
ASHLAND, NEW HAMPSHIRE
MARCH 11, 2003

Patricia Tucker
TOWN CLERK

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ●

ARTICLES

Article 13: Are you in favor of the following proposed amendments to the Town of Ashland Zoning Ordinance?

Question 1: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to clarify Article 3.5, the definition of junkyard, and the remedies of violations? This amendment clarifies the definition of junkyard and states the process for rectifying the violation. (Majority vote required)

YES 280
NO 76

Question 2: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to clarify Article 3.3? This amendment clarifies the procedure for non-residential signs and establishes an enforcement procedure. (Majority vote required)

YES 245
NO 108

Question 3: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to clarify Articles 2.2f, 2.3c and 2.3c(f)? This amendment clarifies wording and defines the Little Squam and Squam River Overlay District. (Majority vote required)

YES 253
NO 94

March 11, 2003	ELECTION RESULTS - WRITE INS ONLY		
SELECTMEN	BUDGET COMMITTEE - 3 YEAR		
JAMES SUTKUS	1	ALAN CILLEY	1
TREASURER		ANN REEVER	3
NANCY CROSS	1	BETTY BELYEA	2
TRUSTEE OF THE TRUST FUNDS		BETTY MARSH	1
AMY MORIARTY	1	BRAD OBER	3
THOMAS E. PETERS	1	CHRIS JOHNSTONE	1
CAROLINE GOSSE	1	CHRIS WEDEN	2
MARK HORMELL	1	CLAIRE HICKS	1
THOMAS MARSH	2	CRAIG MOORE	2
RICK BURGESS	1	DAN UHLMAN	5
LIBRARY TRUSTEE - 3 YEAR		DANIEL STACK	1
TERRY FOUTS	1	DAVID MARCROFT	1
JO BROWN	1	DAVID PAQUETTE	2
MAUREEN ZOCK	1	DAVID RUELL	2
ANYONE ELSE	1	DEAN MARCROFT	1
LIBRARY TRUSTEE - 1 YEAR		DENISE CROSS	4
JO BROWN	1	DOUG WOODBURY	3
LYNN UHLMAN	1	ED BROWN	1
ELECTRIC COMMISSIONER		ED SIMES	1
JAMES COLE	1	ERIC MURDOCK	1
WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONER		ERNIE GILMAN	2
JAMES COLE	1	FRANK MURDOCK	1
BRIAN MORIARTY	1	GLENN DION	3
CORY OBER	1	HELEN KNOWLTON	1
LEE BAVIS	1	JEFF HILTZ	1
BUDGET COMMITTEE - 2 YEAR		JEFF UHLMAN	5
BARB MARION	1	JILL MUDGETT	1
BEV OBER	1	JIM ALBA	1
CHRIS JOHNSTONE	1	JIM COLE	2
DAN UHLMAN	1	JOANNE SULLIVAN	21
DAVID PAQUETTE	1	JOHN C. HUGHES	10
DOUG WOODBERRY	1	JOYCE BAVIS	1
ERNIE GILMAN	1	K.B. HUGHES	12
JAMES COLE	2	KATY BURGESS	2
JEFF HLADYK	1	KAY MUDGETT	1
JEFF UHLMAN	1	KELLY AVERY	1
JIM ALBA	1	KENDALL HUGHES	1
JOANNE SULLIVAN	5	KENDALL L. HUGHES	1
JOHN C. HUGHES	1	LEE BAVIS	1
K.B. HUGHES	3	LINDA GUYOTTE	1
KELLY AVERY	1	LINDA PACK	1
KENDALL HUGHES	1	LINDA PARE	1
LISA ASH	1	LISA ASH	1
RICHARD BURGESS	1	MARK ANDERSON	1
ROBERT HICKS	1	RAY KNOWLTON	1
SHIRLEY MARCROFT	1	RHONDA FAHRNER	1
STACY LEMBO	1	RICK ASH JR	2
		ROBERT HICKS	1
		ROY JOHNK	1
		RUSSELL CROSS JR	1
		SANDRA COLEMAN	1
		SHIRLEY MARCROFT	1
		SKIP FIELDS	1
		TIM JUBERT	1
		TOM PETERS	1
		TOM STEWART	1
		TONY RANDALL	1
		TRACY BLANCHARD	1
		VERNON MARION	3

March 11, 2003	ELECTION RESULTS - WRITEINS ONLY					
	ASHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT AND PEMI BAKER SCHOOL DISTRICT					
	ASHLAND SCHOOL BOARD			PEMI BAKER SCHOOL DISTRICT		
	CHRIS WEDEN	2				
	JENNIFER ALBA	1			MODERATOR	
	MICHAEL LEMBO	2			APRILLE BERNARD	1
	TOM STEWART	1			PHIL PRESTON	1
	ASHLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT MODERATOR				JOHN NOYES	1
	AMY MORIARTY	1			JAMES GOSSE	1
	BRAD OBER	1				
	BRIAN CHALMERS	1			BOARD MEMBER - ASHLAND	
	BRIAN RAY	1			ANN REEVER	1
	DAN GOLDEN	1			SANDRA A. COLEMAN	1
	ERNIE GILMAN	1			HELEN KNOWLTON	1
	GLENN DION	17			DEBBIE CASTLE	1
	HELEN KNOWLTON	1			AMY MORIARTY	1
	JAMES GOSSE	4				
	JEFF BELYEA	1			BOARD MEMBER - CAMPTON	
	JEFF UHLMAN	1				
	JILL MUDGETT	1			BOARD MEMBER - HOLDERNESS	
	JOHN C. HUGHES	1				
	JOYCE BAVIS	1			BOARD MEMBER - PLYMOUTH	
	KELLY AVERY	1				
	PHILIP PRESTON	4			BOARD MEMBER - THORNTON	
	SCOTT WEDEN	1			ANYONE ELSE	1
	TIM PETERS	1			PATTY HEINZ	1
	TOM WINN	1				
	SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER					
	AMY MORIARTY	1				
	SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK					
	ANN REEVER	1				
	BETH CHALMERS	1				
	BETTY MORTON	1				
	DIANE GALLIEN	1				
	GLENN DION	2				
	HELEN KNOWLTON	1				
	JAMES GOSSE	1				
	JANET HILTZ	1				
	JENNIFER ALBA	1				
	JILL MUDGETT	3				
	JOYCE BAVIS	1				
	KATIE BURGESS	1				
	KELLY AVERY	1				
	LINDA GUYOTTE	3				
	LUMINA STRAW	1				
	PAT TUCKER	13				
	PATTY PAQUETTE	1				

ASHLAND ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

*Submitted by Commissioners Ernest Hutter, Raymond Knowlton,
Melvin Holland and Superintendent Lee Nichols*

The year 2003 has been a period of tremendous growth for the Ashland Electric Department. This past year brought many events that helped contribute to our commitment of low rates to Ashland Electric's customers. Our electric rates are now one of the lowest in the northeast!

Growth: We have set – 11 New Meters, and 15 poles, 1203 feet of secondary wire and 1391 feet of primary wire. As we add new customers, we spread our maintenance costs over more accounts. Ashland Electric has, as of this writing, also installed power to the new Dunkin Donuts/Baskin Robbins complex, and installed a new Feeder Line to the Ashland Sewer Plant, due to an underground power failure.

Event: Our Power Contract, beginning in January 2004, and our Secondary Contract beginning on the same date will allow us to maintain the same (current) rate structure with no increase in rates. Note that most other current rates are going up.

Event: Ashland Electric is actively pursuing the areas of North Ashland Road and portions of Route 175 that are currently being served by New Hampshire Electric Cooperative. There has been a meeting before the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission and, currently information is being exchanged between AED and NHEC.

We, The Commissioners and Staff at Ashland Electric are anticipating a favorable reply by mid-year so that the customers of North Ashland Road and the areas of Route 175 may enjoy the services and low rates Ashland Electric has to offer.

ASHLAND HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Mark W. Ober

At the March 2003 Annual Meeting the voters passed a \$400,000 Road Improvement Bond. Roads that benefited from this project were:

550 feet of Summer Street
560 feet of Prospect Street
4450 feet of Highland Street
3200 feet of Owl Brook Road
300 feet of Hicks Hill Road
3800 feet of Peppercorn Road
680 feet of Valley Lane
400 feet of Partridge Lane

Construction was ongoing from early summer to late fall. The finish course of hot top will be applied in the spring of 2004.

The following general work was completed during the 2003 work year:

Installed 210 feet of culvert pipe
Rebuilt 6 catch basins
Several dead or problem trees were removed
General road maintenance work

The budget for 2004 includes funds to continue the road and sidewalk improvement plan. One or two smaller projects will need to be done each year in order to keep up with the infrastructure.

During the year our department assists our other town departments with projects as needed.

Again I wish to thank all town employees for their help during the year.

TRANSFER/RECYCLING FACILITY

Submitted by Mark W. Ober

THE MORE WE RECYCLE, THE MORE WE SAVE IN OUR HAULING FEES FOR THE “RUBBISH” THAT IS HAULED AWAY!!

The Transfer/Recycling Facility has processed 824.57 tons of household rubbish **(THIS IS THE RUBBISH THAT COSTS THE TAXPAYER TO HAVE HAULED AWAY)** at a cost of \$83.36 a ton.

We have also processed 246 tons of construction and demolition materials as of December 31, 2003 at a cost of \$65.76 per ton plus \$177.83 for hauling each load. The cost of this part of the process is somewhat recovered by fees for disposing of the materials.

The Recycling Center has handled more than 198 tons of recyclable materials.

Our new recyclable material – paper – has produced over 10 ton since we started.

We would like to remind you to recycle (recycling is a town ordinance) and if you have your items picked up by a commercial hauler the recycling rules still apply.

We also remind you that permit stickers for 2004-2005 will be available at the town office in January. Please bring in your vehicle registration; you can have one for each vehicle that you own.

ASHLAND BUILDING INSPECTOR CODE ENFORCEMENT

Submitted by Robert Hicks

Maintaining good, safe building, and code compliance is what we all want for Ashland. We have a good team with Frank Murdock, Electrical Inspector and Jerry Bridgham, Plumbing Inspector - both quality men and knowledgeable in their trade. Ashland had twelve new homes built and two commercial buildings along with many additions and building improvements.

We are a part time department - applications for permits can be obtained during regular Town Office hours, five days a week from 8AM - 4PM. We are always just a phone call away. Arrangements can be made for on-site meetings and inspections are made with a reasonable appointed time.

2003 has been a very active year for Ashland building, 193 permits have been issued since January 1 with seven new housing starts, 81 building permits make 2003 the busiest year for Ashland building.

Income for permits total \$9,035.96 as of November 26, 2003. Total town improvements \$3,464,815 as of November 26, 2003.

- Building Permits - 81
- Electrical Permits - 37
- Plumbing Permits - 29
- Oil Burner Permits - 23
- Driveway Permits - 7
- Sign Permits - 10
- Demolition Permits - 5
- Mobile Home Permits - 1

Inspections and site planning have increased this year, we have received many inquiries for building regulations and information regarding new business and zoning. We use the International Building Codes 2000, along with our Ashland Building and Zoning Regulations.

Many dedicated people on the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Ashland Planning Board, Ashland Fire Department, Highway Department, Town Planner, and office staff all provide support and help with the Building Inspectors office.

Our goal is to provide help for Ashland residents with their building needs and to administer the regulations as fairly and promptly as possible. Good building planning helps our town provide safe housing, growth for residential homes and the right kind of new business opportunities for our community.

ASHLAND FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT - 2003

Submitted by Fire Chief Scott Weden

Ashland's Fire Department has experienced another busy year. As of November 21, 2003 we have responded to 399 calls for service.

Fire apparatus is in relatively good condition. Our 1981 Seagraves Ladder is out of service due to not meeting the standards of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). It is time to take a serious look at replacing this piece of equipment. If we do not address this issue, and continue to allow multi story structures to be built we will continue to not be able to effectively protect these buildings. Other apparatus in the upcoming years will have to be refurbished.

Inspection of commercial and residential apartment property remains an ongoing concern of the Fire Department. This past year, letters have been sent to a number of apartment owners to determine their compliance with the National Fire Protection Association Life Safety codes as well as the State of New Hampshire Fire Codes to ensure the safety of all who work and live within the Town of Ashland.

During the year 2003, the firefighters have held several fundraisers to support the Fire Department and its needs. The monies raised through their efforts have gone to replace old equipment as well as new equipment used in the Fire and Emergency Medical service. With the support of the townspeople, Ashland's Fire Department has been able to have numerous, successful fund raising activities.

Firefighters have continued to be very active in continuing their education in the areas of Firefighter certification and Emergency Medical Technician. Throughout this past year, turnout of members per call has remained high. I must say that the firefighters not only have responded to calls, but also have been very active in community events that occur. One example of this would be the construction of the new skating rink at the ballpark that will be used by many children and adults from the area.

I would like to thank the Town of Ashland for giving me the opportunity to lead Ashland's Fire Department as Chief. I am honored and proud to serve this department, whose members I have found to be dedicated and professional in carrying out their duties. I would also like to thank all Town Departments and the Administration for their support over the past year.

ASHLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

RUN SUMMARY 2003

MEDICAL	213
PROBLEM WITH BOILER	3
DUMPSTER FIRE	1
CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR	7
MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT	68
MUTUAL AID - BUILDING FIRE	20
MUTUAL AID - COVER TRUCK	12
MUTUAL AID - COVER AMBULANCE	4
CHIMNEY FIRE	7
SERVICE CALL	15
STOVE FIRE	1
FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION	21
BUILDING FIRE	4
MOTOR VEHICLE FIRE	13
SNOWMOBILE ACCIDENT	1
PROPANE LEAK	1
FUEL SPILL	4
BRUSH FIRE	12
AMBULANCE COVERAGE	3
SMOKE INVESTIGATION	4
WIRES DOWN	6
STORAGE TRAILER FIRE	1
SMOKE FROM BUILDING	4
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	6
ELECTRICAL PROBLEM	4
UTILITY POLE FIRE	2
FLOODED BASEMENT	2
SNOWMOBILE FIRE	1
GOOD INTENT	5
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	445

ASHLAND FOURTH OF JULY 2003

Submitted by Mary Ruell

This year's activities were the most profitable in the history of the Fourth of July celebration in Ashland. The small, hardworking July 4 Committee is most appreciative of the response from donors and volunteers and the participation of thousands of spectators in the activities which help us earn the funds needed for an outstanding celebration.

Since July 4 fell on Friday, we held the Pancake Breakfast on that day followed by the Parade. Breakfast was served to 475 people between 7:30 and 10 AM by a busy crew laboring under the sun. The Parade was highlighted by the Bridges Family as Grand Marshals, honored as the initiators and maintainers of the popular "Food for All" program. As always, the American Legion Post # 15 provided the Honor Guard for the lengthy parade.

On Saturday July 5, the Midway ran from 3 to 11 PM, with several new additions. After an absence of two years, the chicken barbecue was reinstated with the addition of spare ribs. The traditional entertainment was enhanced by several new performers and a talent show of local young people. A new design of T-shirts and buttons was very popular and close to a total sellout.

The Squam Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce took an active part by soliciting their membership for donations, paying for advertisements, and manning the Post Office parking lot. The Ashland Woman's Club and the Legion Auxiliary and many businesses in the area continued to make their significant donations. The Common Man, always generous, underwrote the cost of food for the breakfast, barbecue and food booth to an unprecedented extent.

As always, the display of fireworks by Atlas PyroVision was outstanding with spectacular and innovative offerings. Thousands of spectators poured into town to enjoy the performance and once again the celebration gave homage to the concept of Independence Day..

The July 4 Committee included Patricia Heinz, Christine Weden, Alan Cilley, John Richards, Nancy Cross, Alison Galembo, Glenn Dion, and Mary Ruell, assisted by Chief Joe Chivell and the Police, Fire and Highway departments and many other volunteers on that weekend.

ASHLAND JULY 4 CELEBRATION - 2003

Balance on Hand, January 1, 2003	\$ 6,614.72
Town Appropriation for Patriotic Purposes	\$ 1,500.00
Interest for year	\$ 6.45

RECEIPTS

Donations

Organizations (3)	\$ 1,163.00	
Businesses (30)	\$ 2,415.00	
Individuals (3)	\$ 76.78	\$ 3,654.78

Collections

Field	\$ 1,658.27	
Buttons (at parade)	\$ 1,060.35	
Shurfine customers	\$ 361.00	\$ 3,079.62

Concessions	\$ 1,525.00	
T-Shirts Sales, net	\$ 965.10	
Raffle	\$ 1,294.00	
Pancake Breakfast	\$ 2,596.00	
Chicken/Rib Barbecue	\$ 1,018.00	
Food Booth	\$ 628.00	
Cost of Food	\$ (500.00)	\$ 7,526.10

Total Earned	\$ 14,260.50
Total Available	\$ 22,381.67

Expenditures

Fireworks	\$ 7,500.00
Parade Units (4)	\$ 1,850.00
Entertainment/Prizes	\$ 270.00
Buttons	\$ 228.80
Portable Toilets (4)	\$ 460.00
Advertising	\$ 242.00
Tapes, Stakes	\$ 68.38
Postage	\$ 29.60

Total Expenditures	\$ 10,648.78
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Balance - MVSB	\$ 11,732.89
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ASHLAND HISTORIC COMMISSION

Submitted by Commissioners Robert Hicks, Claire Hicks

The Ashland Historic Commission and Genealogy web site is <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/6447/ashland.htm>

For many years Ashland has provided for the preservation of our historic, abandoned cemeteries, with clean up and minor repairs at seven locations. The cemeteries are prepared for our Memorial Day visitors. These areas are some of our greatest historic assets.

1. The Church Hill Cemetery located several hundred feet off Route 175
2. Ruben Whitten Cemetery on Highland Street is maintained by the property owner
3. Hicks Hill Cemetery on Hicks Hill Road (May 3, 2003)
4. The Mooney Cemetery on Thompson Street is maintained by the property owner
5. Owl Brook Cemetery on Owl Brook Road (May 3, 2003)
6. Baker Cemetery near the water tower off Avery Street is maintained by the property owner
7. Howe-Clark Cemetery on Leavitt Hill is maintained by the property owner

Since 1988 the Ashland Genealogy Society has encouraged public use of their genealogy files that are available at the Ashland Town Library. The above-mentioned web site contains names and dates available from all seven cemeteries. There are also several photographs and history from town historians.

ASHLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2003

Submitted by David Ruell, President

This year, for the first time in over three decades, the Whipple House Museum was closed. In its thirty-five years of existence, the Ashland Historical Society has accumulated a surprising amount of material, artifacts, and documents, most of which have been stored away in the nooks and crannies of the Whipple house. To properly organize and catalog these materials and to develop new displays, we decided to close the museum for the year so that we could devote the warmer months, at least, to the task. As most of the building is unheated, we cannot work there in the winter. We have found that we could not both work on the collections and keep the museum in a presentable condition during the summer.

Curator Sandra Ray has led the ongoing effort of several Society members to properly catalog and store the artifacts that we own. In 2002, Peg Dobbie began the large task of computerizing this catalog. We regret to report that Peg, a longtime supporter of the Society, died at far too young an age this March. Her husband, Phil Preston, has taken up the job of recording our collection on the computer. Virginia Fisher of Plymouth State University is helping our curator to develop new permanent displays for the museum. Ashland Lumber Company has made a substantial donation of materials for the new exhibits.

Another group of volunteers had been organizing the large amount of paper materials, documents, books, newspapers, and photographs, which we have accumulated. The goal is to properly store these archives in files, boxes and shelves so that they can be readily found and used by researchers. The collections have continued to grow through gifts, such as Edna Boynton's donation of her large collection of Ashland High School yearbooks and memorabilia. They have also seen increasing use. Photographs from our collection have been borrowed for illustrations in three different books to be published this year and next. Jim Hodsdon has copied and enlarged some of our more interesting photographs and postcards reflecting on Main Street, Squam Lake and its steamers, the churches for display at the Utility Office. A selection of our books, particularly town histories, has been loaned to the Ashland Town Library so that the public will have easier access to them.

The Whipple House Museum saw some repairs this year, notably in the apartment bathroom, which required some plumbing work and a new heater. We plan to complete the renovation of the bathroom with a new tub surround and new paint. Two electric light fixtures had to be replaced in the Whipple House.

Despite the closing of the Whipple House, the Pauline E. Glidden Toy Museum saw good attendance this year. Special programs included the annual tea and luncheon for the volunteers, the popular Young Ladies Tea for younger girls, and two new events, a Hobo Picnic for young boys,

and a very successful Appraisal Day. The alarm system was repaired and a telephone installed. Objects from the Toy Museum collection were lent to Plymouth State University for an exhibit.

The Railroad Station Museum saw the installation of a stove and the donation of a baggage cart by the Boston and Maine Railroad Historical Society. The B&M RR Historical Society and the Railway Revitalization Committee both met at the station, which is available for meetings. The museum was opened during the summer and for train excursions such as the fall foliage rides and Councilor Ray Burton's annual fall train trip. The Society and the American Legion Dupuis Cross Post # 15 sponsored a turkey dinner train ride from the station to Meredith in November. The annual model railroad show was held again in the Plymouth Senior Center; with the added attraction this year of train rides from Plymouth to Ashland. We are now exploring the possibility of building a siding on the station property, both for the display of rolling stock and for the rental of space for privately owned cabooses.

A continuing concern of the Historical Society is the preservation of the old Ashland Elementary School. In 2001 and 2002, the school district voted to sell the building to Tri County Community Action Program (TCCAP). The negotiations between the school board and TCCAP have continued off and on for over a year. Since the negotiations have been private, it has been hard to judge the progress made. But, at this writing, in mid-November, there were some indications that they may be nearing completion. The society remains hopeful that this fine old building can be saved and restored to an active use.

We continued to provide free public historical programs to the community. Program topics included the founding of the Town of Ashland and the history of the beach and campground. George Hoyt Whipple's 125th Birthday was celebrated with a party at the Whipple House. The Society had an excursion to the Remick Museum in Tamworth in October and will conclude the year with a Christmas Party. The Boston Post Cane was presented to our oldest citizen, Romenia "Minnie" Hughes, in a ceremony at her home. A lobster dinner, catered by the Common Man, was held in Memorial Park in August and raised a substantial sum for our treasury. We were also pleased to receive another donation from the Anita Fund.

We cannot close without thanking all those who have donated their time, effort and money to the Society's programs and projects.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION - 2003

Submitted by Ruth Knapp, Chairman

The Conservation Commission has had a busy year. Members attended many meetings throughout the Grafton County Conservation District and the State Department of Environmental Services.

Several meetings were spent discussing seasonal dock issues on Squam River and Squam Lake. Squam River safety issues were also worked on. Several dock permits were submitted and approved.

Timber harvesting was completed at the Scribner-Fellows Forest and other timber intents were reviewed.

The fight against Milfoil continues to be a statewide effort with information continuing to be made to the public.

Scenic roads and their importance were discussed in light of new construction in town.

We thank the Citizens, Town and State for their support in our efforts.

TOWN WELFARE REPORT

Submitted by Robert Hicks

The Town Welfare Department is here for emergency assistance. The welfare dollars for 2003 continued to trend upward, mainly due to a lack of affordable housing and area shelters. Many people who are working, or receive state benefits, cannot find housing that they can afford.

Vouchers for emergency assistance totaled \$15,659.00. As of December 3, 2003 just over one hundred clients have received emergency assistance.

As Welfare Director I see first hand the concerns of some of our citizens for basic needs. We try to help with information on housing and jobs and we guide our clients to the proper agency to provide for long-term needs.

AQUARION SERVICES COMPANY

Submitted by Plant Manger Russell Cross, Jr.

It has been a busy year for the water and wastewater departments with many projects getting completed.

This past winter brought many problems with the below average cold temperatures. There were approximately 45 freeze ups including water meters, water service lines, water mains and sewer mains. On Winter Street the sewer main plugged with ice and roots the last week of January. After digging through 3 ½ feet of frost a manhole that had been buried for many years was found which made clearing the problem go much faster. During the first week of February the water main froze coming into the wastewater plant. After thawing in late April, 40 feet of new 4-inch pipe had to be replaced. During the first week of April the 2-inch galvanized main on Prospect Street burst. After digging to repair it, it was decided the pipe, which had been in place since the early 1950's, was deteriorated so badly it needed to be replaced. A new 2-inch line was laid and a new 6-inch sewer main was installed from Summer Street down to the end of Cottage Street at the same time.

In late May the fire hydrants were flushed and all hydrants were painted over the summer.

Many sections of the town sewer mains were inspected and flushed this past year.

A new refrigerated sampler has been installed at the wastewater plant which required 1200 feet of conduit and wire be run from the operations building to the splitter box where the samples are taken.

Throughout the year many painting projects, brush cutting, mowing and general maintenance has been done. An intrusion alarm was installed at the wastewater treatment plant and is now in service.

Both the water and wastewater plants have met all State and Federal requirements for the past year.

WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Commissioners Robert Boyle, Daniel Golden, Ernest Paquette

- The River Street project was finally finished last spring.
- The 1994 pickup truck was sold and replaced by a new heavier 2003 pickup with a plow.
- When the water line on Prospect Street failed and a new line was installed, the Commissioners decided to replace the old sewer association line for Prospect Street and also replace the old sewer line on the hill on Cottage Street. Two trouble spots were eliminated. A section of sewer line was replaced on Summer Street for the same reason.
- Ms. Hannon from the state's Department of Environmental Services explained the state's position on a dumping station for the town's private wastewater disposal systems. To do this we must build the station and bring it on line. For only Ashland's private use the state will give us 30% of the cost to build, the cost to build is approximately \$50,000 - \$60,000. Also we would get 2% of cost for each town that we would allow to use this facility. Our plant has the ability to allow a reasonable number of towns to use this station. At this point this project is not feasible due to finances.
- The Jackson Pond Dam had the required state inspection and the dam is reported to be in good condition. We drew up a new operations and maintenance plan for the area.
- The old chlorinator building off Winona Road has been removed, the hole filled and the area graded. The deed for this property is being drawn up and when the paperwork is completed and signed we will no longer own this property.
- The Commissioners changed the company that maintains the Water and Sewer Departments. Woodard and Curran was the original company hired. Aquarion is the newly hired company. This move saved over \$31,000.
- The transfer of the land and deed for the right of way on the Avery well area has been completed.

ASHLAND TOWN LIBRARY

Submitted by Trustees Jill Mudgett, Angela Bellamy, Alice Staples

2003 proved to be a year of continued growth for the Ashland Town Library. Our number of registered patrons increased, our circulation numbers are on the rise, and our offerings through our collection and additional programming have expanded.

The Ashland Town Library has been able to offer over 100 programs to the members of the Ashland Community this year. We have added several new programs to our usual list of offerings. New programs this year include our Knitting Class, hosted by our own Noreen Crawford. Pre-school and Sleepy Story time, which highlight guest readers from the community and our Hopping the Globe Program through which the children are able to experience different cultures throughout the world. We assisted the Community Center in collecting food for the Holiday Food Baskets and held birthday parties for two of our favorite children's authors, namely Maurice Sendak and Laura Ingalls Wilder. Additionally, thanks to the fundraising efforts of the Ashland Woman's Club, we are fortunate to be able to offer a Children's Theatre Group in 2004.

In addition to celebrating the birthdays of some of our favorite authors, we were fortunate to be visited by local authors. James Kiepper came in to speak on his book, "Syttles Bridges/Yankee Senator". Claire Robson returned to host a session of the Children's Poetry Workshop. As always, she was a big hit with the children and we thank her for the generous donation of her time and expertise.

Good fortune smiled upon us this year, when we were selected as a recipient of the Bill and Melinda Gates Grant. The Gates Grant allowed us to purchase four new computers, complete with plasma screen monitors, full software packages and bilingual keyboards.

Naturally, the success of the Ashland Town Library would not be possible without the support of our community. Therefore, we would like to take a moment to thank some of our many volunteers who have given so generously of their time over the last year. Our

sincere thanks go out to Diane Gallien, Marissah Gallien, Eli Badger, Steve Orlich, Olivia Woods, Jacquie Grinley, Tab Julius, Mike Dunn, Dana Ray Potter and Judy Burr.

Additionally, we would like to thank our hosts for the Hopping the Globe Program, whose generous donation of time and knowledge allowed the children of our community to experience a variety of cultures. Our sincere thanks go to: Dr Adnan el Korchi, with whom we learned about Morocco; Michelle You, with whom we learned about Korea; Gabiel Chami, with whom we learned about Argentina; Lei Wu and Maggie Li, with whom we learned about China; Esther Horstmann, with whom we learned about Holland; Catriena Robertson, with whom with learned about Scotland.

Without the dedication of the above-mentioned people, many of the programs offered by the Library would not be possible. Many thanks for all of your time and dedication; we sincerely appreciate all your efforts.

The Library Trustees would also like to take a moment to bid fond farewell to Suzanne Peoples who has been a dedicated member of our Library staff for many years. Suzanne has moved on to accept the position of Library Director in the Holderness Library. We wish Suzanne much success in her new position and we extend our sincere thanks for her many years of service here in Ashland.

In closing, the Library Trustees, would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our Library Staff – Sara Weinberg, Terry Fouts, and Noreen Crawford. We are fortunate to have dedicated and talented staff members who give freely of their own time and talents to make our Library a success. We, as Trustees, extend our sincere thanks to each one of you for your time and dedication – we simply could not do it without you.

LIBRARY FINANCIAL 2003*						
<u>Receipts</u>				<u>Bank Accounts</u>		
Balance on Hand January 1, 2003				CHENEY FUND		
Town Appropriations 2003				Balance 01/01/03	\$	189.41
Fundraising				Balance 12/31/03	\$	189.41
Trust Funds				ORDWAY FUND		
Grant				Balance 01/01/03	\$	128.33
Interest - checking account				Balance 12/31/03	\$	128.33
Refund				PAULINE PACKARD MEM.FUND		
TOTAL INCOME				Balance 01/01/03	\$	69.89
				Balance 12/31/03	\$	69.89
<u>Expenses</u>				PHILIP STEVENS BOOK FUND		
Audios				Balance 01/01/03	\$	103.67
Bank Charges				Balance 12/31/03	\$	103.67
Books				FRANCES M. PLATT FUND		
Collection Supplies				Balance 01/01/03	\$	8.13
Dues				Balance 12/31/03	\$	8.13
Equipment				HARRIET ADDISON FUND		
Insurance				Balance 01/01/03	\$	124.87
Payroll				Balance 12/31/03	\$	124.87
Postage				FUNDRAISING ACCOUNT		
Printing				Balance 01/01/03	\$	434.68
Professional Services				Interest	\$	3.46
Programs				Deposit	\$	2,083.88
Subscriptions				Withdrawals	\$	(450.00)
Supplies				Balance 12/31/03	\$	2,072.02
Tech Support				PENWORKS ACCOUNT		
Taxes				Balance 01/01/03	\$	304.08
Utilities				Interest	\$	1.04
Videos				Withdrawals	\$	(42.65)
				Balance 12/31/03	\$	262.47
Total Expenses				GATES FOUNDATION		
				Balance 01/01/03	\$	13,166.05
				Interest	\$	27.05
				Withdrawals	\$	(13,193.10)
				Balance 12/31/03	\$	-
Balance on Hand December 31, 2003				COPY FEES		
				Beginning 2/27/03	\$	121.28
				Deposits	\$	327.82
				Interest	\$	0.34
				Balance 12/31/03	\$	449.44
				PATRON FEES		
				Beginning 1/1/03	\$	72.00
				Deposits	\$	410.00
				Interest	\$	0.33
				Balance 12/31/03	\$	482.33
*Unaudited						

ASHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Chief Joseph Chivell

During the year of 2003 the Ashland Police Department continued to answer the needs of the residents with proactive programs and patrol as we maintain our commitment to create a safe and healthy environment for our residents and the many visitors who frequent our scenic area to enjoy all the activities the lakes region has to offer.

I would like to outline a few of the programs we have provided:

- We have partnered with PROJECT CHILDSAFE to provide guns locks to residents with school age children. We initially had a display at the Ashland Elementary School Open House in November where we offered gun locks to the parents in attendance. In the second phase of the program, gun locks will be offered to residents who apply to obtain pistol permits.
- We have continued with our FILE OF LIFE program in which we provide residents with medical information forms they complete and affix to their refrigerator in red magnetized holders. Emergency personnel responding to a crisis can then quickly access these forms to ensure the best possible action and treatment.
- The DARE Program continues to be our focus for early intervention and drug awareness education for our younger citizens. The Ashland Police Department is dedicated to providing an officer to teach the 5th grade class the most current curriculum of this nationally recognized program.

On the patrol side of our activities we have diligently addressed two areas of concern, the first being burglaries and secondly vehicle speed violations.

In prior years the town experienced some staffing issues and was unable to provide 24-hour coverage. Recently we have been able to properly staff the Police Department to provide the necessary coverage and the reported burglaries for 2003 has dropped to 3 from the 25 that were reported in 2002, the 15 reported in 2001, and the 25 reported in 2000. I feel this directly reflects the officers' dedication to proactive patrol during all three shifts.

With the assistance of a grant from the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency we were able to provide a three hour directed patrol two to three times a week over the summer to address the issue of speed violations in all areas of the town. It is our hope to create safe streets for everyone to drive and walk on.

I would like to thank the residents of Ashland for the support they give to the Police Department as we strive to make Ashland a safe and enjoyable place to live.

PARKS AND RECREATION 2003

Submitted by Director James R. Gleich

Programming:

The Parks & Recreation Department is under a new directorship. As of October 1st, James Gleich became the new Parks & Recreation Director. Jessica Bickford stepped down from the position of Director back in April in order to relocate closer to her husband's work in Vermont. We wish her the best of luck and success. The after-school program continued to prosper thanks to the efforts of Katie Burgess, who spear headed the effort along with parent volunteers to keep the program alive and growing. Thank you Katie and all parents involved. We hope to see the same enthusiasm and dedication from all involved with the after-school program in the future. At the start of the new school year, the after-school started out slowly but within a few weeks, the number grew to over 14 students registered for the program. This allowed us to bring aboard Lisa Fligg as the "After-School Program Assistant." Lisa continues to bring her great enthusiasm and program experience to our after-school program making the experience fun and positive for all involved.

When the summer program started, an Interim Director was hired to oversee the busiest time of the year for Parks & Recreation. Patty Heinz was given the reigns of the program until a new Director could be found. Along with Patty, Jennifer Cushing (Summer Camp Head Counselor), and many dedicated counselors / lifeguards, the summer program was a great success. We are looking forward to continuing the momentum for next summer.

Throughout the year many Ashland residents participated in numerous programs sponsored through Parks & Recreation. These activities included various cooking classes, movie field trips, holiday parties, snow tubing at Cannon, and more. Many of these programs will be repeated in 2004 due to their popularity. In the New Year there will be numerous large-scale workshops on various skills like sewing, boat building, and more cooking classes.

Campground & Beach

The campground and beach have both seen some impressive renovations throughout the year. The campground season was punctuated with 22 of 23 campsites filled for the season! The new season is looking to be just as busy as last year.

The beach area has seen the greatest change over the year. The beach house has been renovated to house three bathrooms (one being wheelchair accessible), and a concession stand for the beach. The beach area has been updated with a new cement retaining wall with a staircase and wheelchair ramp. A drainage system has been put in place to help prevent beach erosion. Thanks to all of the hard working construction crews, the beach project has been a wonderful success. We are looking forward to seeing and using the beach facility throughout the up coming years.

Facilities Updates:

Throughout 2003 many of our facilities have been involved in some type of renovation or refurbishment. All of these improvements have helped to increase the quality of our building but also the quality of our programming available to the community. These improvements are as follows:

Completion of the following building projects:

- Beach renovation
- Campground renovation
- Playground resurfacing & repairs (new wood chips, trapeze handles)
- Swing Set area was resurfaced
- Baseball Dugouts were given a wood chip standing area
- Booster Club repairs included:
 - The stove was cleaned and serviced
 - A new rubber roof was applied to the porch extension
 - Shingle repairs made to the existing roof
 - Bathroom repairs
 - General cleaning and organizing to the entire building.
- Proposed projects for the new year include:
 - Repainting of the Booster Club (outside and inside)
 - Replacing the Booster Club kitchen floor.
 - Resurfacing and repairing the tennis courts
 - More to follow as they are discovered.

Many thanks need to go out to all the members of the community who had helped make these repairs possible. Without all of your help, contributions of time, effort and donations these repairs and upkeep would be impossible. My special thanks to Raymond Knowlton and the gentlemen at the Highway Department for your assistance with the playground wood chip resurfacing.

Community Involvement:

There are many ways for you (residents of Ashland) to become involved within Parks & Recreation:

- Attend programs
- Volunteer some of your time to help an activity happen.
- Suggest or Teach a class of interest
- Chaperone a trip
- Sponsor a camper
- Become a counselor at the summer program
- Serve on the Parks & Recreation Committee.
- Be a concerned citizen and let us know if you notice something out of the ordinary.
- Think of us when you are cleaning out those attics, garages, playrooms, and basements. (Many thanks to the individuals who did this in 2003; your donations help make many of our programs possible)
- Donate some time to help build something
- Serve as a handyman.

These are just a few ways in which individuals can become a part of our Parks & Recreation program. The more people that get involved, the more the Ashland Community can grow. Help us bring even more diverse programs to your community. Help us grow to meet the needs of our great community. Many thanks to everyone whom helped make the 2003-year possible. Here's to making 2004 an even better year.

LAND USE BOARDS

Submitted by Ellison Badger

Planning Board

The Planning Board met 20 times during 2003. They held nine public hearings and 19 informational hearings. They held ten work sessions where they laid out plans to work on the Master Plan which is a two to three year project, and one the Planning Board has decided to do themselves instead of seeking an outside entity and incurring additional expenses. The Board feels that with citizen input they can express the nature of Ashland better than an outside source. In addition to organizational steps to work on the Master Plan revision, the Board worked on clarifying the Subdivision and Driveway Regulations and updating the Zoning Ordinance.

The Planning Board holds a Public Meeting the first Wednesday of every month and work sessions are held on the third Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Alan Cilley resigned in November of this year leaving the Board after serving as its chair for a year and a half. The Board wishes him well, and thanks him for his dedication.

The Planning Board is a seven-member board and with three alternates and is looking for members. If you are interested please contact the town office.

Zoning Board

The Zoning Board of Adjustment heard eight variance cases this year for relief from the restrictions of the Ashland Zoning Ordinance, two cases dealing with Home Occupation signage, one with road frontage, one dealt with the creation of two non-conforming lots, three were setback issues from the Squam River of which one was denied; and a road set back issue for the Ashland Beach Snack Bar Building.

The Zoning Board meets as needed, and within 30 days of the receipt of an application. The Board is available to any person seeking relief of the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Zoning Board accepted the resignation of Robert Boyle this year. The Board wishes to thank Bob for his years of dedicated service to the Zoning Board.

The Zoning Board is a five-member board and looking for members. If you are interested please contact the town office.

Town Planner

As the part-time Town Planner I have assisted both the Planning Board and the Zoning Board with issues as well as the Board of Selectmen and the Building Inspector. I am always available from 8-12 Monday through Friday to assist with applications, permits and any land use issues.

In addition, I have developed, and am still working on the Town of Ashland's web site - www.ashland.nh.gov where I try to keep up to date information from the various departments and boards of the Town.

An integral part of the Land Use Boards process has been Laura Plummer - she has been invaluable.

ASHLAND MEMORIAL PARK

Submitted by Trustees Mary Ruell, Marion Merrill, Ernest Hutter, Philip Preston

We continue to be pleased with the appearance of the park, thanks to Ali-Di Properties, who have maintained the park for the last five years. This is also in spite of a severe lack of funds while the return on the investment of our Trust Fund remains at a low ebb.

Not wishing to postpone indefinitely all needed repairs, the trustees decided to make temporary improvements to the two sets of steps that needed attention. Through the willingness of trustee Ernest Hutter to volunteer his labor and the use of his equipment, the stairways were greatly improved at a modest cost. Ernie and his wife Norene also removed a shrub that had been damaged by a runaway car.

There seems to be someone enjoying the park most of the time. The fountain has been in play this year and is always an attraction. For the first time in many years, no organization sponsored a "Day in the Park", but it continues to be the center of activities for Christmas Night in Ashland and the Historical Society enjoyed a Lobster Dinner there on an evening in August. Two weddings were held at the gazebo this year, one for a couple from China and one for the grandson of longtime residents.

We thank the Police, Electric and Highway Departments for their cooperation. We also appreciate the work of the Ashland Garden Club as they plant and maintain the Flagpole and Watering Trough areas as well as the flowerbed in the old fountain base.

We wish to remind our friends that the name of the park emphasizes its purpose. It was built and maintained with memorial gifts, and such donations continue to be appropriate and most welcome. They may be sent to Ashland Memorial Park – PO Box 320 – Ashland, NH 03217.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Submitted by Patricia Tucker

The Town Clerk's Office is open Monday – Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00PM, we are open on Thursday's until 5:00PM.

We licensed over 400 dogs in 2003, we thank the owners for their cooperation in this effort.

The Town has allocated funds for the past few years that have enabled some of our old vital record books to be restored. These records are permanent records of the town and the restoration is invaluable. We are continuing this project as long as funds are appropriated.

Town Clerk Revenue for the Year 2003:

Motor Vehicle Registrations and Titles	\$259,466.00
Refunds	(\$ 1,455.00)
Town Portion of Dog Licenses	\$ 1,961.50
State Portion of Dog Licenses	\$ 927.50
(This will be sent to state)	
Town Portion of Vital Record Copies	\$ 304.00
State Portion of Vital Record Copies	\$ 896.00
(This is sent to the state)	
Filing Fees (UCC, election fees)	\$ 1,667.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 309.94
Refund	(\$ 6.00)
Total	\$264,070.94

Unaudited Report December 31, 2003

PEMI BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

2003 ANNUAL REPORT

2003 was another busy year for the District. Proper household hazardous waste management was again a top priority. With assistance from North Country Council, the District coordinated three (3) one-day collection events – Littleton and Thornton in the summer and Plymouth in the fall. These collections resulted in the proper disposal/recycling of over 4,700 gallons of materials. Over 400 households participated in this program. The average amount of household hazardous waste dropped off by each participant was thirteen (13) gallons. A major reduction from 2002 when the average amount per participant was over twenty (20) gallons. The District received \$9,799.65 in grant funds from the State of NH's Household Hazardous Waste Program and a \$1,000 donation from North Country Environmental Services to help offset some of our program costs.

The District also recycled over 26,000 feet of fluorescent light bulbs that were collected at individual transfer stations throughout the year – our highest total yet. We used a new recycling vendor for this material, Complete Recycling Solutions (CRS), and we could not be any happier with our decision. Not only were we able to secure lower recycling costs but CRS also provided exceptional service and technical support.

In 2004, the District plans to hold two (2) HHW collections in the spring (Littleton and Rumney) and one (1) in the fall (Plymouth). We will continue to coordinate the year-round collections of oil-based paint and fluorescent light bulbs.

The District built off of the success of our initial electronics recycling collection program in 2002 and held two (2) one-day collection events in the spring (Littleton and Plymouth). This collection was open to residents and businesses. Participants were asked to pay a fee for each item recycled which varied due to type and size. To help publicize the event, Sharp Electronics donated two portable CD stereo systems that were given away to two lucky participants. Over 8 tons of material was collected between the two events. In 2004 the District plans to provide this service once again. We are currently looking at ways we can reduce the fees charged at this event through grants, donations and negotiations with our contractor. If they so choose, towns may collect this material year-round and then bring it to one of the one-day collection sites.

The district takes very seriously the need to decrease the toxicity of our solid waste stream. Through our programs, we strive to provide a means to do this in a cost effective manner.

This past year the District took time to examine alternative disposal facilities in the region that could provide the district competitive pricing with long-term stability. Representatives from the Mt. Carberry Landfill in Success met with the District and provided an overview of their disposal facility and their tiered pricing structure. Pricing information was also gathered from the Turnkey Landfill in Rochester and the Wheelabrator Incinerator in Penacook. The District also looked at transportation options available including purchasing of roll-off trucks and district-wide transportation contracts.

2003 REPORT OF UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION GRAFTON COUNTY OFFICE

UNH Cooperative Extension provides New Hampshire citizens with research-based education and information, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions that strengthen youth, families and communities, sustain natural resources, and improve the economy.

Funded through the federal, state and county governments, and competitive grants. Educational programs are designed to respond to the local needs of citizens through direction and support of an elected volunteer advisory council.

Education programs and assistance are objective, informal and practical in nature; most are at no direct cost for participants. Clients' needs are met through phone calls, letters and printed materials, hands-on workshops, on-site visits, seminars and conferences, and up-to-date web sites. Our staff is able to respond quickly with needed information via electronic mail, keeps up-to-date on the latest research and information, and works collaboratively with many agencies and organizations.

A professional staff of seven educators works out of the Extension Office located in the Grafton County Courthouse in North Haverhill. Two additional staff members work in Plymouth and Littleton to provide educational programs for limited-resource families. Additional support is provided through trained volunteers who assist with Extension programs and increase our outreach capabilities.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS IN GRAFTON COUNTY, FY03:

To strengthen NH's Communities: Community Profiles; Community Conservation Assistance Program; Preserving Rural Character through Agriculture; Urban and Community Forestry; Community Youth Development; and Volunteer Training.

To strengthen NH's Family and Youth: After-School Programs; Family Resource Management; 4-H Youth Development; Family Lifeskills Program; 4-H Camps; Nutrition and Food Safety Education; Parenting Education; Cradle Crier/Toddler Tale Newsletters; and Volunteer Leader Training Programs.

To sustain NH's Natural Resources: Dairy Management; Agroecology; Forest Industry Assistance; Forest Resources Stewardship Program; Fruit Production and Management; GIS Training; Lakes Lay Monitoring Program; Integrated Pest Management; Ornamental Horticulture; Plant Health Diagnostic Laboratory; Vegetable Crop Production; Wildlife Habitat Program; Water Quality/Nutrient management Programs and Agricultural Business Management.

Extension Staff: Tom Buob, Agricultural Resources; Ginny DiFrancesco, Water Quality; Kathleen Jablonski, 4-H Youth Development; Michal Lunak, Dairy; Deborah Maes, Family Development; Northam Parr, Forestry & Wildlife Resources; Robin Peters, Nutrition Connections; Jacqueline Poulton, LEAP Program, and Jean Conklin, Agricultural Resources. Educators are supported by Donna Mitton, Kristina Vaughan and Sharon Youngman.

Extension Advisory Council: Mike Dannehey of Woodsville; Shelia Fabrizio of North Haverhill; James Kinder of Haverhill; David Keith of North Haverhill; Shaun Lagueux of Bristol; Jane O'Donnell of Littleton; Cindy Putnam of Piermont; Debby Robie of Bath; Carol Ronci of Franconia, Denis Word of Monroe. Teen Members include: Tosona Melanson of Dorchester; Molly Roy of Bath and Justine Morris of Haverhill.

Extension Office Hours are Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM.

Phone: 603-787-6944 **Fax:** 603-787-2009 **Web Site:** <http://ceinfo.unh.edu>

Email: ce.grafton@unh.edu **Mailing Address:** 3785 DCH, Box 8, North Haverhill, NH 03774-4936

Extension programs and policies are nondiscriminatory with regard to age, color, handicap, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation and veteran's status.

PEMI-BAKER HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

Submitted by Rep. Chris Weden and Alt. Mary Ruell

Pemi-Baker Home Health and Hospice provides your community with a multitude of services and programs. Some of the *new* initiatives during the past year have been...

- Participation in the Home Visiting NH program called "Healthy Mom, Happy Baby", a collaborative effort with Speare Memorial Hospital
- Providing RN consultation to the Plymouth Senior Center's Adult Day Program
- A series of four programs for caregivers, in collaboration with ServiceLink of Southern Grafton County
- Foot Care Clinic at the Plymouth Regional Senior Center
- Advance Care Planning, Wound Care and Pediatric Homecare Trained staff

Pemi-Baker Home Health and Hospice participates with Speare Memorial Hospital to present monthly community health forums as part of their Health and Wellness Series.

One of our most notable accomplishments over the past twelve months has been the success of our bi-monthly community education television series on Cable access 3 "Your Health Matters". We present current and relevant health topics such as *Coping with Caregiver Stress* and *Over the Counter Medication for the Elderly*.

We are proud to announce that Pemi-Baker Home Health and Hospice was asked to participate in a PBS documentary being filmed by Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center regarding Hospice Care at home.

Over the past year, agencies across the nation have continued to deal with financial issues that affect their ability to provide adequate services to their patients. In addition to a 10 percent payment cut for rural agencies, there was an additional 15 percent reduction in Medicare payment rates. Current Medicaid rates do not cover the cost to deliver services, paying in some cases, only 30 to 50 cents on the dollar for services rendered. The workforce shortage, rising insurance premiums, inflexible and burdensome regulatory systems, declining charitable giving and an ever-increasing elderly and frail population all contribute to operational hardships and strain service provider resources. *For these very reasons, you can be assured your town dollars are helping to support programs and services in your community.*

We are your local homecare agency...ask for us by name.

RAYMOND BURTON, GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL

Submitted by Raymond Burton

To the People of District One:

It is a pleasure to report to you now in my 25th year of serving the 98 towns, 4 cities and Coos, Carroll, Grafton, Sullivan and Belknap Counties of New Hampshire. All together there are 249,000 people who I consider my customers, clients and constituents. It has always been a pleasure to respond, as my duties within the Executive Branch of your state government mandate, to inquiries for information, relief and assistance as provided in NH state law and budget. It is an honor to serve you as a public servant.

Below are listed several documents that are available to citizens and I find them to be a valuable NH resource.

The 2003-2004 state telephone directory of state departments and personnel – this 180 page directory includes TDD access numbers, office information, coordinators, map of location of state buildings, legislative listings, judicial branch listings, department listings, personnel listing and a topical listing. This is available for a cost of \$6.00 plus \$2.50 postage. Make checks payable to the State of New Hampshire, or order on line at www.gencourt.state.nh.us/visitorcenter. The entire directory is available at <http://www.state.nh.us/government/agencies.html>

The 2003-04 NH County Directory of all NH County Officials is free and available by calling (603) 224-9222. This is also on the web at www.nhcounties.org

Also available at no cost from the Secretary of State Office at 271-3242 or at elections@sos.state.nh.us or mail at Secretary of State, State House Room 204, Concord, NH 03301 are the following publications:

The NH Election Procedural Manual for 2004-2005

The NH Election Laws for 2004-2005

The NH Political Calendar for 2004-2005

The duties of the NH Executive Council, the NH Tour Guide book, the official tourist map and the NH Constitution are always available from my office at 271-3632 or 747-3662 or ray.burton4@gte.net

As long as I'm around as one of your elected officials never ever feel you are alone in your hour of need. Contact me anytime.

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE

Submitted by Jaye Olmstead, Executive Director

Since joining Voices Against Violence in August, I have been continually amazed by the variety of services the agency provides and by the degree of professionalism with which the staff and volunteers deliver these services. I have been humbled by the experience of meeting men, women and children who have endured unspeakable acts of violence and who define strength and resilience just by their being. For over 20 years, voices has been offering support and encouragement to a full age range of female and male survivors of domestic and sexual violence and their families in Ashland and seventeen other Grafton County towns through:

- 24 hour crisis line
- Confidential emergency shelter and food for women and their children
- Emergency transportation
- Hospital, court and police accompaniment
- Assistance with temporary and permanent restraining orders
- Legal, social service and housing advocacy
- Support groups for adults
- Education programs for elementary, secondary, post-secondary schools

Through these services, Voices had 2,059 contacts with 321 clients in our fiscal year 2003; 360 of these contacts were with 22 females and males from Ashland. In the first six months of our fiscal year 2004, Voices has had 25 contacts with 13 victims from Ashland. While these numbers represent persons assisted through a combination of all of the services listed above, we provided on-going, intensive support to 19 women and their 15 children who stayed in our shelter for a total of 2,078 bednights, an increase of 15% over fiscal year 2002. In the first six months of our fiscal year 2004, 11 women and their 11 children have been shelters 858 bednights. For safety reasons, we do not often provide extended shelter stays for residents from our immediate area. This does not mean that women and children from our area are not experiencing violence; it means that our energy with them is focused on providing the support and assistance necessary to secure them a safe location.

While much of our energy is focused on providing this type of direct service, Voices is continually developing preventative models to stop the spread of violence in communities before it reaches a crisis stage. One step in that process is to maintain ongoing communication and collaborative programming with other social service agencies, law enforcement, medical personnel, the education and faith communities, area businesses, civic organizations, and others to assist community members of all ages in recognizing and developing the tools and skills necessary to avoid and limit crisis situations.

As part of this commitment to ending violence in our communities, Voices has enhanced our public outreach efforts, resulting in presentations to 2,317 area school students and community members during our fiscal year 2003. These presentations teach students about respecting self and others, maintaining healthy boundaries, stopping bullying and teasing, as well as offer information on the prevalence and cost of domestic and sexual violence to society.

LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

2002 -- 2003

The Lakes Region has changed tremendously in the past 20 years. Homes and businesses have expanded along major roadways, and many of our communities have experienced dramatic change. This growth has resulted in a number of regional challenges. The Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) is the area organization established to address the effects of growth at both the local and regional level. With a service area covering over 1,200 square miles in Belknap, Carroll, Grafton and Merrimack Counties, the LRPC provides a wide range of planning services to member municipalities. The Commission offers diverse direct and support services ranging from technical assistance, geographic information systems, and transportation planning, to land use and environmental planning, and economic development. The LRPC is primarily funded from local, state, and federal resources. We are contacted several times daily for answers to local issues. We also maintain a regular dialogue with state agencies as a resource for the entire Lakes Region. Our goal remains to provide support and leadership to the governments, businesses and citizens of the Lakes Region.

Here are some of our services performed on behalf of Ashland and the region in the past fiscal year:

- ❖ Shared information with local officials about cutting trees on school property.
- ❖ Assisted the Town Planner with procedures to re-elect a Planning Board Chair upon resignation.
- ❖ Provided information on how some communities approach home occupations, and discussed legislative and court-mandated criteria that ZBA's are required to apply to all variance requests with local officials.
- ❖ Discussed with the Town Planner whether the town can regulate two-family dwellings through zoning.
- ❖ Discussed with the Town Planner the specifics of when an Appeal of Administrative Decision would be used. Also shared information on the specifics in the Ashland ordinance that pertain to undersized lots with lack of road frontage.
- ❖ Met with local officials to discuss Ashland's need for an accurate road map and up-to-date zoning map, which was then created for them by LRPC.
- ❖ Answered questions about issuing building permits on lots without frontage on Class V, Class VI, or Private Roads.
- ❖ Provided sample regulations for yard sales.
- ❖ Researched information on the rights of a landowner who has river frontage to request a tax abatement from the town due to a belief that the changes in the river have resulted in a loss of actual river frontage over time.
- ❖ Reviewed RSA's on how a town can change their building permit fees.
- ❖ Submitted information to the Town Planner on the control and permitting of seaplanes on bodies of water.
- ❖ Ordered for the Ashland Planning Board fifteen copies of the 2003-2004 N.H. Planning and Land Use Regulation Books at a considerable savings.
- ❖ Co-hosted and organized three public Municipal Law Lectures where practicing attorneys provide a legal perspective on local planning, zoning and other municipal issues. Recent lectures included: Growth Management and Smart Growth, Effective Enforcement of Local Land Use Decisions and Regulations, and Nonconforming Uses and Vested Rights. We also prepared for the 2003 Law Lectures, in partnership with the NH Municipal Association.
- ❖ Completed and distributed the Lakes Region Demographic Profile; a comprehensive compilation of key socioeconomic indicators from the US Census, and other data sources.

- ❖ Convened several meetings of the LRPC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to enhance local involvement in transportation planning and project development. The TAC usually advises the LRPC on projects are of regional significance.
- ❖ Initiated the start of the Lakes Region Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. This planning effort will help provide a blueprint for the location of local bike and pedestrian routes.
- ❖ Hosted a National flood Insurance Program Workshop for Local Officials that provided an overview of the National Flood Insurance Program and training for local officials.
- ❖ With assistance from the Community Development Finance Authority (CDFA) SEED Capacity Grant, LRPC completed a number of work products including the Demographic Profile, coordination with area economic development organizations and Main Street communities, and the computerization of town-level economic development data.
- ❖ Reviewed project proposals through the NH Intergovernmental Review Agreement that provides the region and local communities an opportunity to respond to applications seeking state and federal aid. LRPC reviewed many proposals having a combined investment total greater than \$16 million in the Lakes Region.
- ❖ Conducted over 160 traffic counts and several road inventories around the region, in cooperation with the NH Department of Transportation.
- ❖ Continued technical support to the Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee, in cooperation with the NH Department of Environmental Services.
- ❖ Convened four area Commission meetings that featured Natural Resources Planning: a Lakes Region perspective. The presentations were followed by facilitated discussions that identified issues and innovative natural resource initiatives.
- ❖ Planned the 18th annual household hazardous waste collection in the Lakes Region. In FY-04, two consecutive Saturdays were designated as collection days for the 24 participating communities. An estimated 20,000 total gallons of waste were collected, containerized, and transported to EPA approved end-of-life locations around the country.
- ❖ Updated the annual Development Trends in the Lakes Region, a survey of subdivision, housing construction, industrial, and commercial development.
- ❖ In consultation with the Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), LRPC prepared, adopted, and submitted to the NH DOT the latest regional recommendations for Transportation Enhancement Funding.
- ❖ Represented the region on several committees including: the NH Transportation Enhancement Advisory Committee, the Statewide steering committee to update the NH Airport System Plan, the Belknap County Economic Development Council, the Northern Rail Task Force, among others.
- ❖ LRPC also continues to assist start-up efforts of the recently opened Lakes Region Household Hazardous Product Facility.
- ❖ Secured funding from the NH Emergency Management Bureau to assist local communities with the preparation of all hazard management plans.

VITAL RECORDS 2003

MARRIAGES 2003

14-Feb	RAYMOND GODDARD	MOULTONBORO, NH	E.M. FORD	ASHLAND, NH
14-Feb	ANTONIO BAEZ	ASHLAND, NH	PAMELA G. CRAIG	ASHLAND, NH
3-Mar	JEFFREY S. RHUDE	ASHLAND, NH	TAWNIA M. SWISHER	PLYMOUTH, NH
16-May	MORGAN P. REYNOLDS	ASHLAND, NH	CHRISTINA M. GESEL	ASHLAND, NH
31-May	MICHAEL PRITZKER	ASHLAND, NH	DEBRA J. BOYNTON	ASHLAND, NH
10-Jun	KEVIN STRATTON	ASHLAND, NH	WINNIE TSENG	ASHLAND, NH
15-Jun	LEI WU	ASHLAND, NH	XIANYUN LI	ASHLAND, NH
28-Jun	GLENN E FIELDS	ASHLAND, NH	HEIDI E. HARRIS	ASHLAND, NH
19-Jul	FRED W MORTON	ASHLAND, NH	SABRINA M MANION	ASHLAND, NH
16-Aug	BRIAN C. BERG	ASHLAND, NH	LORI ANNE CLAPPER	ASHLAND, NH
13-Sep	JOHN BRUCE GROLEAU	ASHLAND, NH	DEBORAH JEAN HART	ASHLAND, NH
27-Sep	WILLIAM PAUL MANSON	ASHLAND, NH	ALISON MERINA CURRIER	ASHLAND, NH
4-Oct	VICTOR A. AZZARA	ASHLAND, NH	LOIS A. PETERS	ASHLAND, NH
11-Oct	RICHARD L. STOCKDALE	BOSTON, MA	LINDA A. ZAHKA	ASHLAND, NH
18-Oct	SEAN PATRICK O'LEARY	ASHLAND, NH	KARA EMMALEE SHARPS	ASHLAND, NH
18-Oct	ZACHARY B. TIRRELL	ASHLAND, NH	SARA AUSTIN STILLSON	ASHLAND, NH
25-Oct	MICHAEL R. FARRELL	ASHLAND, NH	SUSAN ELIZABETH SMITH	ASHLAND, NH
8-Nov	PAUL MARTIN BELLAMY	ASHLAND, NH	ANGELA MARIE JAQUITH	ASHLAND, NH
19-Dec	AARON LEE MARSHALL	ASHLAND, NH	KELLY E. SAUNDERS	ASHLAND, NH
27-Dec	ANDREW J DUPRE	CATAWSA, SC	MARY E PEARSON	ASHLAND, NH
29-Dec	ERIC L FORD	ASHLAND, NH	BARBARA E FOLLANSBEE	BRISTOL, NH

BIRTHS 2002

15-Sep	RILEY ANN CHAFFEE	LACONIA, NH	WILLIAM CHAFFEE	ANGELA CHAFFEE
7-Oct	MEGAN ROSE MELANSON	LACONIA, NH	DEAN MELANSON	CHRISTINE MELANSON
27-Oct	IAN DANIEL SWITZER	PLYMOUTH, NH	STEPHEN SWITZER	LESLEY SWITZER
31-Oct	MARINA CORINNE WOODBURY	LACONIA, NH	DOUGLAS WOODBURY	DEBRA KEZAR-WOODBURY
BIRTHS 2003				
DOB	CHILD'S NAME	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S NAME	PLACE OF BIRTH
4-Feb	ETHAN ANDREW FOGG	WILLIAM FOGG	LORI FOGG	LACONIA, NH
22-Mar	FLETCHER KEYLE HALL	DAVID HALL	MARSHA HALL	PLYMOUTH, NH
26-Apr	JOHN KYLE ULRICSON	DAVIS ULRICSON	AMY ULRICSON	LACONIA, NH

8-Jul	DANI MARIE MARSH	DAVID MARSH	MICHELLE MARSH	LACONIA, NH
28-Jul	AUSTIN ALEXANDER WILKINS	ERNEST WILKINS	SHARON WILKINS	FRANKLIN, NH
18-Sep	SASHA ANNA ADDEL	JOHN ADDEL	BEATA ZAWISLAK	PLYMOUTH, NH
21-Oct	MAGGI ROSE MURDOCK	ERIC MURDOCK	DARCIE MURDOCK	PLYMOUTH, NH
27-Oct	GARRETT RAYMOND DION	GLENN DION	JULIE DION	PLYMOUTH, NH
19-Nov	AUDREY SOPHIA FIELDS	SCOTT FIELDS	KRISTIN FIELDS	CONCORD, NH
4-Dec	BRIANNA LYNN FOGG	WILLIAM FOGG	LORI FOGG	LACONIA, NH
16-Dec	SEAN MICHAEL CARROLL	DANIEL CARROLL	SAMANTHA CARROLL	PLYMOUTH, NH
24-Dec	MIKAYA COOPER PARENTE	MICHAEL PARENTE	JEANNE PARENTE	FRANKLIN, NH

DEATHS 2002

DATE	NAME	PLACE	FATHER'S NAME	MOTHER'S NAME
20-Dec	BRIGID C. KILFOYLE	NEW HAMPTON, NH	JOHN KILFOYLE	SARAH CONOVER
21-Dec	WALTER J. BOYNTON	PLYMOUTH, NH	ELMER BOYNTON	GRACE GOSS

DEATHS 2003

3-Jan	JAMES E SARGENT	LACONIA, NH	ARTHUR SARGENT	IDA WHITCHER
10-Feb	VIRGINIA S. STACK	LEBANON, NH	HARRY SINCLAIR	ISABELL GRIFFTH
24-Mar	MARGARET A DOBBIE	MERRIMACK, NH	JAMES DOBBIE	EUPHEMIA RICHARDS
28-Mar	KATHERINE J. HARRIMAN	DOVER, NH	HARRY JORDAN	MAE MCFADDEN
29-Mar	RICHARD C. BEAULIEU	ASHLAND, NH	ALBERT BEAULIEU	ELIZABETH FLETCHER
30-Mar	LEONARD F. DUGUAY	LACONIA, NH	HYACINTH DUGUAY	ANN SAVOY
2-Apr	ALFONSE BERSUCH	FRANKLIN, NH	GEORGE BERSUCH	FRIEDA KLOESS
14-Apr	MARY L. BARTLETT	LACONIA, NH	ANDREW MILLER	SELINA MCGRATH
17-Apr	HAZEL C. GEORGE	MEREDITH, NH	CLARENCE COCHRAN	MARY ANN HAGGERTY
8-Jun	E.DAVIS WOODBURY	ASHLAND, NH	ERWIN WOODBURY	MINNEOKA DAVIS
13-Jun	RITA G. ILLSLEY	LACONIA, NH	MELVERN CLAYTON	MARGARET BURNS
21-Jun	MAXIM W. DAME	ASHLAND, NH	SHERBURNE DAME	CORINE LANDROCHE
24-Jun	MARY E. SMALL	FRANKLIN, NH	CHARLES DANE	ODESSA DOUGLAS
10-Aug	KEVIN G. CROWLEY	PLYMOUTH, NH	ROBERT CROWLEY	DOROTHY HUSHION
25-Aug	DUSTYN J. WHITE	PLYMOUTH, NH	NOT STATED	LAURA WHITE
16-Oct	EVA M. DONOGHUE	LACONIA, NH	ANTONINE MORRISSETTE	ESTHER BOUTIN
28-Oct	TIMOTHY L. PERRY	PLYMOUTH, NH	MERLE PERRY	VIRGINIA BEAN
30-Oct	HAROLD D. KENISTON	ASHLAND, NH	ELMER KENISTON	GEORGIA HILL
5-Nov	ALPHONSE P. VAILLANT	ASHLAND, NH	THOMAS VAILLANT	ALICE PLUDE
15-Nov	FLORIANNE E. LEVASSEUR	ASHLAND, NH	ALFRED MICHAUD	CLARA THERRIEN
18-Nov	MARK DUNLOP STOREY	ASHLAND, NH	CLAYTON W. STOREY	MILDRED E DUNLOP

AS REPORTED BY THE BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS

INVENTORY OF TOWN OWNED PROPERTY

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	ACRES	LAND VALUE	BUILDING VALUE	BOOK	PAGE	
003-002-004	96 COLLINS STREET - LANDFILL	28.4	\$ 71,400.00	\$ 27,300.00	1142	551	6/9/1971
003-003-001	NEW HAMPTON TOWN LINE	3.4	\$ 4,300.00				
003-003-002	137 COLLINS STREET - WWTF	108	\$ 153,200.00	\$ 6,460,000.00	1016	222	4/22/1965
004-001-003	72 CEDAR LANE - PUMP STATION	36.34	\$ 162,400.00	\$ 77,000.00	2191	54	4/15/1996
004-002-015	JCT HILLSIDE AVE/MAIN STREET	0.44	\$ 8,600.00				
004-004-001	99 MAIN ST-BALLPARK/BOOSTERCLUB	7	\$ 60,100.00	\$ 71,700.00			
	DEED - SULLIVAN				562	119	
	DEED - SPAULDING				826	71	11/1/1952
	DEED - KILPATRICK				969	156	4/30/1962
	DEED - BROWN				770	328	
	DEED - KNAPP				1087	510	1/8/1969
011-003-008	RTE 3/OWL BROOK ROAD	0.05	\$ 2,800.00		2394	653	5/24/1999
011-003-010	RTE 3/OWL BROOK ROAD	0.04	\$ 3,800.00		2394	651	5/24/1999
011-006-004	LEAVITT HILL RD-EDWARD DOGGETT BEACH	1.5	\$ 315,800.00	\$ 800.00	863	431	5/18/1955
012-005-003	LEAVITT HILL RD-EDWARD DOGGETT						
012-005-003	LEAVITT HILL-EDWARD DOGGETT CAMPGROUND	5.2	\$ 158,200.00	\$ 20,700.00			
014-001-001	HYDRO DAM ON STATE LAND			\$ 106,100.00	1043	243	Aug-66
014-001-020	RIVER STREET/BOAT LAUNCH	0.15	\$ 25,200.00				
015-001-020	RIVER STREET/CROSS ROAD	1.1	\$ 15,200.00		549	503	
015-002-019	RIVER STREET	1.4			471	126	
015-002-020	RIVER STREET	0.04	\$ 1,800.00		1109	519	3/3/1970
015-002-021	RIVER STREET	1.3	\$ 700.00		2394	652	5/24/1999
016-002-001	HIGHLAND AND MAIN STREET	0.046	\$ 4,700.00				
016-003-020	EDUCATION WAY-ASHLAND SCHOOLS	26	\$ 149,000.00	\$ 2,689,500.00			
016-007-001	20 HIGHLAND ST - TOWN HALL	0.61	\$ 39,000.00	\$ 205,100.00	1167	405	7/3/1972
016-009-004	RIVERSIDE DRIVE	0.06	\$ 4,300.00		2155	649	8/24/1995
					2155	653	8/24/1995
016-009-009	MAIN ST/RIVERSIDE DR - MEM. PARK	0.94	\$ 24,900.00	\$ 1,000.00			
	DEED - MARINE LAND				1099	430	8/25/1969
	DEED - SIRLES LAND				1099	425	9/26/1969
017-001	MAIN ST/DEPOT STREET	0.07	\$ 1,200.00				

017-006-009	12 PLEASANT ST-WHIPPLE HOUSE	0.93	\$	11,600.00	\$	160,200.00	1120	106	7/21/1970
017-007-001	41 MAIN ST - SCRIBNER LIBRARY	0.4	\$	39,300.00	\$	137,200.00	E. SCRIBNER WILL 1/35		
017-007-012	MAIN STREET-LEGION BLD LAND	0.75	\$	39,300.00			712	169	
017-008-001	MAIN AND MECHANIC STREET	0.31	\$	31,400.00			661	84	
017-009-001	9 MAIN STREET-FIRE STATION	0.59	\$	51,900.00	\$	341,400.00			
017-011-002	DEPOT STREET	0.02	\$	700.00					
017-013-008	WASHINGTON STREET	0.402	\$	5,500.00			2394	650	5/24/1999
018-001-001	6 COLLINS STREET - TOWN GARAGE	3.5	\$	40,500.00	\$	310,200.00	1359	656	
018-004-001	HAROLD AVERY STREET	0.55	\$	5,700.00			1416	659	3/5/1981
018-004-002	HAROLD AVERY STREET	0.52	\$	5,800.00			1416	659	3/5/1981
018-004-034	HAROLD AVERY ST-WATER TOWER	1.2	\$	8,400.00	\$	375,200.00	1424	233	6/17/1981
	Source - Deeds and Previous Town Reports								

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY - 2003									
	USE	ADDRESS	BUILDING VALUE	VALUE OF CONTENTS					
	TOWN OFFICE (INCLUDES POLICE)	20 HIGHLAND STREET	\$ 242,600	\$ 200,000					
	FIRE STATION	9 MAIN STREET	\$ 393,300	\$ 130,000					
	LIBRARY	41 MAIN STREET		\$ 451,000					
	HISTORICAL MUSEUM	12 PLEASANT STREET	\$ 171,800	\$ 50,000					
	TOWN GARAGE	18 COLLINS STREET	\$ 304,000	\$ 200,000					
	STORAGE SHED-ELECTRIC	COLLINS STREET	\$ 1,650	\$ 30,000					
	STORAGE SHED (4) AT HIGHWAY	COLLINS STREET	\$ 58,000	\$ 50,000					
	SEWER PLANT - 5 BUILDINGS	137 COLLINS STREET	\$ 6,613,200	\$ 250,000					
	SUBSTATION		\$ 750,000						
	PARK/RECREATION BLD		\$ 71,700	\$ 40,000					
	BATH HOUSE		\$ 20,700	\$ 1,000					
	SQUAM RIVER COVERED BRIDGE		\$ 260,000						
	REPEATER ANTENNA	PEPPERCORN ROAD							
	WATER TREATMENT PLANT	72 CEDAR LANE	\$ 77,000	\$ 300,000					
	TWO DUGOUTS - BALLPARK	99 MAIN STREET	\$ 3,400						
	GAZEBO - BALLPARK	99 MAIN STREET	\$ 3,500						
	PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	99 MAIN STREET							
	CONCESSION STAND-BALLPARK	99 MAIN STREET	\$ 800						
	GATE HOUSE-ASHLAND BEACH	LEAVITT HILL ROAD	\$ 1,000						
	WATER STORAGE TANK								
	TRANSFER STATION - LANDFILL	96 COLLINS STREET	\$ 30,000						
	COTTAGE	CANDLE SHORES LANE	\$ 31,200						
	*** Source: New Hampshire Municipal Association Property Schedule								

SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION 2003

VALUE OF LAND ONLY

CURRENT USE	\$ 233,292
CONSERVATION RESTRICTION	\$ 1,292
RESIDENTIAL	\$ 30,102,613
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL	\$ 6,560,350
 TOTAL TAXABLE LAND	 \$ 36,897,547

VALUE OF BUILDINGS ONLY

RESIDENTIAL	\$ 50,834,750
MANUFACTURED HOUSING	\$ 1,318,050
COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL	\$ 16,145,150
 TOTAL TAXABLE BUILDINGS	 \$ 68,297,950

PUBLIC UTILITIES

ELECTRIC UTILITIES	\$ 960,546
 TOTAL PUBLIC UTILITIES	 \$ 960,546

VALUATION BEFORE EXEMPTIONS

BLIND EXEMPTIONS	\$ 75,000
ELDERLY EXEMPTIONS	\$ 964,366
 TOTAL EXEMPTIONS ALLOWED	 \$ 1,039,366

Net valuation on which the tax rate for Municipal, county, local tax is computed	\$ 105,116,677
Net valuation on which the tax rate for state education tax is computed	\$ 104,156,131

This information is taken from the MS-1 (2003 Summary Valuation of Inventory)

TAX RATE COMPUTATIONS - 2003

TOWN PORTION

TOTAL TOWN APPROPRIATIONS	\$ 5,466,623.00		
LESS- REVENUES	\$ 3,683,424.00		
LESS - SHARED REVENUES	\$ 33,105.00		
ADD - OVERLAY	\$ 14,540.00		
ADD - WAR SERVICE CREDITS	\$ 18,100.00		
NET TOWN APPROPRIATIONS		\$ 1,782,734.00	
APPROVED TOWN TAX EFFORT			\$ 1,782,734.00
MUNICIPAL TAX RATE			\$ 16.96

SCHOOL PORTION

NET LOCAL SCHOOL BUDGET	\$ 2,079,865.00		
REGIONAL SCHOOL APPORTIONMENT	\$ 1,044,327.00		
LESS - ADEQUATE EDUCATION GRANT	\$ 774,127.00		
LESS - STATE EDUCATION TAXES	\$ 587,770.00		
APPROVED SCHOOL'S TAX EFFORT			\$ 1,762,295.00
LOCAL EDUCATION TAX RATE			\$ 16.77

STATE EDUCATION TAXES

EQUALIZATION VALUATION (NO UTILITIES) x	\$ 4.92		
\$ 119,465,477.00		\$ 587,770.00	
STATE SCHOOL TAX RATE			\$ 5.64

COUNTY PORTION

DUE TO COUNTY	\$ 213,234.00		
LESS - SHARED REVENUES	\$ 3,824.00		
APPROVED COUNTY TAX EFFORT		\$ 209,410.00	
COUNTY TAX RATE			\$ 1.99

TOTAL TAX RATE			\$ 41.36
----------------	--	--	----------

TOTAL PROPERTY TAXES ASSESSED	\$ 4,342,209.00
LESS: WAR SERVICE CREDITS	\$ 18,100.00
ADD: VILLAGE DISTRICT COMMITMENT	\$ -
TOTAL PROPERTY TAX COMMITMENT	\$ 4,324,109.00

PROOF OF RATE

Net Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Assessment
State Education Tax (no utilities)	\$ 104,156,131.00	\$ 5.64 \$ 587,770.00
All Other Taxes	\$ 105,116,677.00	\$ 35.72 \$ 3,754,439.00
		\$ 4,342,209.00

Signed by Barbara Robinson - October 26, 2003

GENERAL LONG TERM DEBT ACCOUNTS

NAME OF ACCOUNT	PRINCIPAL PAYMENT YEAR 2003	INTEREST PAYMENT YEAR 2003	PRINCIPAL BAL DUE
WATER SYSTEM BOND			
\$300,000 @ 4.501%	\$ 6,539.00	\$ 12,188.00	\$ 264,601.00
FINAL PAYMENT 2026			
WATER PROJECT			
\$1,600,000 @ 4.501%	\$ 38,654.00	\$ 63,004.00	\$ 1,361,423.00
FINAL PAYMENT 2025			
WATER BONDS			
\$448,000 @ 5.4 - 8.25%	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 12,345.00	\$ 135,000.00
FINAL PAYMENT 2012			
FIRE TRUCK LEASE			
\$210,600 @ 7.33%	\$ 18,458.00	\$ 4,172.00	\$ 28,350.00
FINAL PAYMENT 2005			
DEFICIT BOND			
\$2,000,000 @ 5.75%	\$ 176,000.00	\$ 8,696.00	\$ 220,000.00
FINAL PAYMENT 2004			
RIVER STREET IMPROVEMENT - R1			
\$971,000 @ 4.5%	\$ 17,679.00	\$ 42,938.00	\$ 936,504.00
FINAL PAYMENT 2030			
RIVER STREET IMPROVEMENT - R2			
\$412,905 @ 4.5%	\$ 7,517.00	\$ 18,258.00	\$ 398,195.00
FINAL PAYMENT 2030			
FIRE DEPARTMENT UNIFORM			
\$28,320 @ 4.5%	\$ 6,093.00	\$ 105.00	\$ 16,135.00
FINAL PAYMENT 2006			
2003 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT			\$ 400,000.00

SCRIBNER MEMORIAL TRUST

DECEMBER 31, 2003

Balance as of December 31, 2002	\$167,689.21	
Expenses	2002	2003
Maintenance	\$ 4,972.22	\$ 3,783.51
Supplies	\$ 567.90	\$ 354.38
Garbage	\$ 163.50	\$ 208.00
Insurance	\$ 919.00	\$ 959.00
FICA	\$ 528.10	\$ 390.24
Trustees	\$ 1,385.22	\$ 1,154.35
Bookkeeper	\$ 923.50	\$ 230.87
Fuel	\$ 999.00	\$ 977.84
Misc.	\$ 4,062.75	\$ 264.98
Ray Burke Fund		\$ 757.85
TOTAL	\$ 14,521.19	\$ 9,081.02
Income		
MVSB Interest	\$ 3.37	\$ 4.09
Putnam Div. On Income	\$ 3,816.47	\$ 3,559.65
Inc. Fund of America	\$ 2,342.49	\$ 2,735.91
Transferred Funds - CD	\$ 7,001.00	
Ray Burke Fund		\$ 968.00
TOTAL	\$ 13,163.33	\$ 7,267.65
Account Balances		
MVSB 23479801	\$ 3,961.99	\$ 2,422.56
MVSB 14364	\$ 178.61	\$ 178.73
Inc. Fund of America - Value	\$ 56,107.21	\$ 67,172.26
Cash Balance	\$ 78.15	\$ 73.15
Pioneer II - Value	\$ 61,763.43	\$ 51,024.67
Putnam Diversified - Value	\$ 45,599.82	\$ 54,997.64
TOTAL	\$ 167,689.21	\$ 175,869.01
Balance as of December 31, 2003	\$ 175,869.01	

Submitted by Edward A. Dupuis, Sam Norman, Richard Ogden, Rick Pare, Daniel Golden

Report of the Trust Fund of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire on December 31, 2003

MS 9

Date of Creation	Name and Purpose of Trust	Principal				Income		Ending Balance	Expended	Ending Balance	Total Principal and Income	Prior Year Balances	Return on Average Balance
		Beginning Balance	New Funds Created	Capital Gains(Losses)	Withdrawals	Income	Increase (decrease) in Fair Value						
Nonexpendable Trusts:													
Cemetery Care Trusts:													
8/29/2019	Thomas Cheney	450.00				0.00		0.00	0.00	169.77	619.77	0.00	
11/15/2022	Francella Perkins	500.00				450.00	12.49	84.05	0.00	188.65	688.65	523.23	2.19%
7/2/2029	Jennie York	250.00				500.00	13.88	93.39	0.00	188.65	688.65	581.38	16.89%
4/15/1930	Blanche Rogers	100.00				250.00	40.69	46.69	0.00	94.32	344.32	290.69	16.89%
2/17/1933	Blanche Nichols	150.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	
11/19/1939	Baichelder Thompson	400.00				150.00	24.42	28.02	0.00	56.60	206.60	174.42	16.89%
3/1/1940	Julia Tanguay	100.00				400.00	65.10	74.71	0.00	150.91	550.91	465.10	16.89%
3/9/1940	Alice Mitchell	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
12/31/1941	Amee Dupuis	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
1/26/1942	Deacon James Huckins	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
1/26/1942	James Ford Huckins	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
8/24/1943	Draper Corliss	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
4/28/1944	Perkins-Vittum-Cheney	1,500.00				1,500.00	244.13	280.16	0.00	565.93	2,065.93	1,744.13	16.89%
4/28/1944	Clarence Cheney Smith	1,000.00				1,000.00	162.75	186.77	0.00	377.28	1,377.28	1,162.75	16.89%
5/26/1944	Frank Fifield	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
4/27/1945	C.T. Clough	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
9/22/1945	Nellie Smythe	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
2/12/1946	S.B. Cummings	150.00				150.00	24.42	28.02	0.00	56.60	206.60	174.42	16.89%
2/12/1946	Julia Nichols	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
2/12/1946	Frank & Sarah Smith	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
3/24/1946	Margaret Horrigan	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
1/25/1950	Guy Torsey	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
8/27/1950	Frank Robie	150.00				150.00	24.42	28.02	0.00	56.60	206.60	174.42	16.89%
10/31/1951	Walter B. Brown	400.00				400.00	65.10	74.71	0.00	150.91	550.91	465.10	16.89%
10/31/1951	Hodgdon & Pollard	400.00				400.00	65.10	74.71	0.00	150.91	550.91	465.10	16.89%
10/1/1953	Gove Rogers	100.00				100.00	16.28	18.68	0.00	37.74	137.74	116.28	16.90%
8/16/1956	Dona Guyotte	150.00				150.00	24.42	28.02	0.00	56.60	206.60	174.42	16.89%
2/14/1960	Bertha C. Boynton	250.00				250.00	40.69	46.69	0.00	94.32	344.32	290.69	16.89%
7/11/1961	Martha Cummings	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
3/12/1964	Josie Lamond	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
8/28/1946	James C. Hinds	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
9/20/1967	Lucien St. Arnaud	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
6/30/1969	Drew Weeks Lot	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
12/17/1969	Marie Young	200.00				200.00	32.55	37.35	0.00	75.45	275.45	232.55	16.89%
Variance		68.91				68.91	(7.74)	9.83	0.00	3.49	72.40	61.17	16.82%
		8,818.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,818.91	244.37	1,644.09	0.00	3,304.82	12,123.73	10,235.33	16.89%

Report of the Trust Fund of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire on December 31, 2003

Date of Creation	Name and Purpose of Trust	Purpose of Trust Fund	Principal			Income			Total Principal and Income		
			Beginning Balance	New Funds Created	Capital Gains(Losses)	Increase (decrease) in Fair Value	Withdrawals	Ending Balance		Income	Expected
Nonexpendable Trusts											
Cemetery Care Trusts:											
Various	Green Grove Cemetery	Cemetery	7,287.53			1,644.09		8,931.62	235.87	521.06	9,452.68
09/18/66	Cummings & Berry Cemetery	Cemetery	1,331.38					1,331.38	966.07	7.33	2,304.78
06/01/30	Thompson Cemetery	Cemetery	200.00					200.00	165.10	1.17	366.27
Library Trusts:											
02/08/77	Pauline Packard Memorial Fund	Library	839.03				119.33	958.36	26.36		984.72
08/07/74	Ordway Cheney	Library	1,659.58				309.43	1,969.01	52.13		2,021.14
05/13/85	Harriet Addison	Library	656.12				257.09	913.21			913.21
Memorial Park											
03/01/95	J. Rollins Trust	Mem. Park	3,200.00				378.23	3,578.23	263.48	1,132.71	4,710.94
08/12/93	Memorial Park	Maintenance	30,418.29				4,713.97	35,132.26	12,040.23	1,907.12	49,079.61
			45,591.93				7,422.14	53,014.07	14,325.82	2,493.46	69,833.35
Expendable Trusts											
Capital Reserve Funds:											
03/14/99	Ice Skating Rink Fund		5,491.44					5,491.44	284.99	18.42	5,794.85
	Highway, Fire & Police		10,197.72					(10,197.72)	704.13	(742.18)	
03/12/02	Highway Truck	Highway Truck	45,000.00	9,000.00				54,000.00	338.96		54,338.96
03/12/02	Employee Disability Payment Fund	Insurance	7,300.00					7,300.00	55.03		7,355.03
			67,989.16	9,000.00				66,991.44	989.12	(742.18)	67,488.84
Agency Trusts											
Ashland School District											
01/23/03	School District Special	Insurance		55,298.66				55,298.66	375.06		55,673.72
05/13/85	Alice June Addison Memorial Scholarship	Scholarship	9,047.59				2,020.79	11,068.38	284.22		11,352.60
05/13/85	Alice June Addison Memorial Scholarship	Scholarship	1,582.63					82.63	0.28		82.91
05/16/87	Edward M. Doggett Memorial Scholarship	Scholarship	2,000.00					2,000.00	500.86		2,003.73
			12,630.22	55,298.66			2,020.79	68,449.67	662.43	(500.00)	69,112.96
			126,211.31	64,298.66			9,442.93	188,255.18	15,815.80	(242.18)	206,435.15
Totals											

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

For the Municipality of ASHLAND Year Ending 2003

DEBITS

UNCOLLECTED TAXES- BEG. OF YEAR*		Levy for Year of this Report	PRIOR LEVIES (PLEASE SPECIFY YEARS)		
Property Taxes	#3110	xxxxxx	292870.67		
Resident Taxes	#3180	xxxxxx			
Land Use Change	#3120	xxxxxx			
Yield Taxes	#3185	xxxxxx	2518.75		
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd	#3187	xxxxxx			
Utility Charges	#3189	xxxxxx			
		xxxxxx			

TAXES COMMITTED THIS YEAR

Property Taxes	#3110	4330820.80	
Resident Taxes	#3180		
Land Use Change	#3120	5669.70	
Yield Taxes	#3185	7456.69	
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd	#3187	34.00	
Utility Charges	#3189		

FOR DRA USE ONLY

OVERPAYMENT:

Property Taxes	#3110	4807.48	332.49		
Resident Taxes	#3180				
Land Use Change	#3120				
Yield Taxes	#3185				
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd	#3187				
Interest - Late Tax	#3190	7916.78	12162.35		
Resident Tax Penalty	#3190				
TOTAL DEBITS		\$4356705.45	\$307884.26	\$	\$

*This amount should be the same as the last year's ending balance. If not, please explain.

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU
P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487
(603)271-3397

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

For the Municipality of ASHLAND Year Ending 2003

CREDITS

REMITTED TO TREASURER	Levy for this Year	PRIOR LEVIES (PLEASE SPECIFY YEARS)		
Property Taxes	3964135.45	290051.15		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change	2527.60			
Yield Taxes	6112.64	2518.75		
Interest (include lien conversion)	7916.78	12162.35		
Penalties				
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd	34.00			
Utility Charges				
Conversion to Lien (principal only)				
Credits 2004	3478.37			
DISCOUNTS ALLOWED				

ABATEMENTS MADE

Property Taxes	4876.10	3152.01		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change				
Yield Taxes	269.91			
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd				
Utility Charges				
CURRENT LEVY DEEDED				

UNCOLLECTED TAXES - END OF YEAR #1080

Property Taxes	366615.73			
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change	3142.10			
Yield Taxes	1074.14			
Excavation Tax @ \$.02/yd				
Utility Charges				
Credits 2004	(3478.37)			
TOTAL CREDITS	\$4356705.45	\$307884.26	\$	\$

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

For the Municipality of Ashland Year Ending 2003

DEBITS

	Last Year's Levy	PRIOR LEVIES		
		(PLEASE SPECIFY YEARS)		
Unredeemed Liens Balance at Beg. of Fiscal Year		82,867.65	51,057.03	11242.29
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year	128,284.23			
Interest & Costs Collected (AFTER LIEN EXECUTION)	3,097.52	10,973.41	9,832.57	3687.43
TOTAL DEBITS	\$131381.75	\$93841.06	\$50889.60	\$14929.72

CREDITS

REMITTED TO TREASURER:		Last Year's Levy	PRIOR LEVIES		
			(PLEASE SPECIFY YEARS)		
Redemptions		50,663.49	53,352.55	27,382.40	7400.88
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)	#3190	3,097.52	10,973.41	9,832.57	3687.43
Abatements of Unredeemed Taxes		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Liens Deeded to Municipality		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Unredeemed Liens Balance End of Year	#1110	77,620.74	29,515.10	23,674.63	3841.41
TOTAL CREDITS		\$131,381.75	\$93,841.06	\$60,889.60	\$14,929.72

Does your municipality commit taxes on a semi-annual basis (RSA 76:15-a)? YES

TAX COLLECTOR'S SIGNATURE Latina Turner DATE 1/22/04

STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND TAXES ASSESSED					
For the Tax Year 2003 - Town of Ashland - Grafton County					
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2003 BUDGET	ACTUAL			BALANCE
		EXPENDITURES			REMAINING
EXECUTIVE	\$ 3,630.00	\$ 4,079.00			\$ (449.00)
ELECTION, REGISTRATION, VITALS	\$ 24,701.00	\$ 23,440.00			\$ 1,261.00
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 215,959.00	\$ 176,791.00			\$ 39,168.00
REVALUATION OF PROPERTY	\$ 62,725.00	\$ 50,073.00			\$ 12,652.00
LEGAL EXPENSE	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 5,661.00			\$ 19,339.00
PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1.00	\$ 20.00			\$ (19.00)
PLANNING AND ZONING	\$ 4,745.00	\$ 2,163.00			\$ 2,582.00
GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS	\$ 55,403.00	\$ 53,398.00			\$ 2,005.00
CEMETERIES	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00			\$ 200.00
INSURANCE	\$ 56,600.00	\$ 54,688.00			\$ 1,912.00
ADVERTISING/REGIONAL ASSOC.	\$ 1,770.00	\$ 1,770.00			\$ -
OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 3,490.00			\$ 11,510.00
PUBLIC SAFETY					\$ -
POLICE	\$ 448,103.00	\$ 448,063.00			\$ 40.00
AMBULANCE	\$ 25,380.00	\$ 25,379.00			\$ 1.00
FIRE	\$ 105,879.00	\$ 103,163.00			\$ 2,716.00
BUILDING INSPECTION	\$ 5,710.00	\$ 5,524.00			\$ 186.00
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 315.00			\$ 2,685.00
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS					\$ -
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 152,624.00	\$ 143,948.00			\$ 8,676.00
HIGHWAYS AND STREETS	\$ 178,086.00	\$ 105,335.00			\$ 72,751.00
BRIDGES	\$ 600.00	\$ 369.00			\$ 231.00
TOWN MECHANIC	\$ 55,011.00	\$ 55,279.00			\$ (268.00)
STREET LIGHTING	\$ 41,400.00	\$ 38,898.00			\$ 2,502.00
SANITATION					\$ -
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL	\$ 139,118.00	\$ 143,949.93			\$ (4,831.93)
HEALTH					\$ -
ADMINISTRATION	\$ 1,596.00	\$ 1,366.00			\$ 230.00
PEST CONTROL	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 2,235.00			\$ 1,365.00
WELFARE					\$ -
ADMINISTRATION/ASSISTANCE	\$ 18,431.00	\$ 22,477.00			\$ (4,046.00)
VENDOR PAYMENTS AND OTHER	\$ 20,651.00	\$ 18,435.00			\$ 2,216.00
CULTURE AND RECREATION					\$ -
PARKS AND RECREATION	\$ 209,554.00	\$ 188,438.00			\$ 21,116.00
LIBRARY	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 41,000.00			\$ -
PATRIOTIC PURPOSES	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,501.00			\$ 299.00
TOWN TRUSTEES	\$ 648.00	\$ 646.00			\$ 2.00
CONSERVATION	\$ 610.00	\$ 610.00			\$ -
DEBT SERVICE					\$ -
PRINCIPAL - LONG TERM	\$ 260,204.00	\$ 267,409.00			\$ (7,205.00)
INTEREST - LONG TERM	\$ 157,506.00	\$ 157,390.00			\$ 116.00
INTEREST - TAN	\$ 1.00	\$ 369.00			\$ (368.00)
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$ 29,828.00	\$ 28,826.00			\$ 1,002.00
WARRANT ARTICLES	\$ 96,725.00	\$ 96,725.00			\$ -
DEFAULT DISCOUNTS	\$ -	\$ 65.00			\$ (65.00)
					\$ -
TOTAL GENERAL FUND					\$ -
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 2,465,999.00	\$ 2,276,487.93			\$ 189,511.07
2003 HIGHWAY ROAD PROJECT	\$ 400,000.00	\$ 335,642.33			\$ 64,357.67
OUT TO ENTERPRISE FUNDS					\$ -
MUNICIPAL SEWER FUND	\$ 270,789.00	\$ 290,771.36			\$ (19,982.36)
MUNICIPAL WATER FUND	\$ 165,037.00	\$ 151,018.61			\$ 14,018.39
MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC FUND	\$ 2,167,176.00	\$ 1,342,306.03			\$ 824,869.97
This report as of January 15, 2004 is unaudited.					

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT							
Submitted by Linda D. Guyotte, Treasurer							
CHECKING ACCOUNTS			TOWN	ELECTRIC	WATER	SEWER	
Beginning Balance January 1, 2003			\$ 1,193,686.45	\$ 96,500.11	\$ 74,751.24	\$ 126,490.93	
Deposits			\$ 12,568,706.86	\$ 3,036,351.87	\$ 181,595.24	\$ 477,380.08	
Expenditures			\$ (12,298,431.65)	\$ (3,061,256.80)	\$ (171,038.15)	\$ (578,008.57)	
Interest			\$ 6,135.31	\$ 459.71	\$ 138.64	\$ 606.75	
Total			\$ 1,470,096.97	\$ 72,054.89	\$ 85,446.97	\$ 26,469.19	
PROOF OF BALANCE							
MVSB Checking Account			\$ 32,584.47	\$ 458.81	\$ -	\$ -	
MVSB Cash Manager			\$ 1,437,512.50	\$ 71,596.08	\$ 85,446.97	\$ 26,469.19	
Total Meredith Village Savings 12/31/03			\$ 1,470,096.97	\$ 72,054.89	\$ 85,446.97	\$ 26,469.19	
INVESTED FUNDS			.				
Beginning Balance			\$ 44,814.51	\$ 61,825.97	\$ 35,149.06	\$ 175,745.28	
Contribution			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	
Withdrawals			\$ (44,953.97)	\$ (45,000.00)	\$ (20,000.00)	\$ (50,000.00)	
Interest			\$ 139.46	\$ 418.37	\$ 568.19	\$ 1,767.14	
Total			\$ 0.00	\$ 17,244.34	\$ 55,717.25	\$ 202,512.42	
Proof of Balance							
NH Public Deposit Investment Pool 12/31/03			\$ -	\$ 17,244.34	\$ 55,717.25	\$ 202,512.42	
Meredith Village Savings Bank				\$ 303,065.47			
Interest				\$ 12,950.76			
Total				\$ 316,016.23			
Proof of Balance MVSB 12/31/03				\$ 315,986.23			
Total Cash on Hand December 31, 2003			\$ 1,470,096.97	\$ 405,315.46	\$ 141,164.22	\$ 228,981.61	

The Mercier Group

a professional corporation

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen
Town of Ashland
Ashland, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Ashland as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general-purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general-purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general-purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general-purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general-purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group, which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

Also, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the Enterprise Funds, which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. The Utility Departments were audited by other auditors who have issued a separate report on those Funds.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omissions described in the preceding paragraphs, the general-purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire, as of December 31, 2003, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying schedules listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general-purpose financial statements of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general-purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general-purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

Paul J. Mercier, Jr. CPA

The Mercier Group, *a professional corporation*
January 23, 2004

The Mercier Group

a professional corporation

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S COMMUNICATION OF REPORTABLE CONDITIONS AND OTHER MATTERS

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen
Town of Ashland
Ashland, New Hampshire

In planning and performing our audit of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire for the year ended December 31, 2003, we considered the Town's internal control structure in order to determine the scope of our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements. Our review of these systems was not intended to provide assurance on the internal control structure and should not be relied on for that purpose.

Under the standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the Town's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities, in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited, may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might constitute reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We are pleased by the progress that Town employees have made to re-establish in-house accounting functions and to develop routine monthly procedures to verify the accuracy of those records. Personnel continue to develop their individual skills and as a result we are happy to report that our audit disclosed no matters that were considered material weaknesses as defined above. Minor weaknesses or other considerations coming to our attention were generally procedural in nature and dealt with administrative or record keeping practices. In these instances, we made specific recommendations or provided instruction to those individuals involved over the course of the fiscal year or during our audit fieldwork. Areas of opportunity for further consideration include:

- Continued preparations for implementing GASB #34 reporting requirements (December 31, 2004)

As independent auditors, we will continue to monitor activities and provide training for accounting personnel as needed through the coming year.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management as an aid in improving systems and procedures. It is not intended for and should not be used for any other purpose.

Paul J. Mercier, Jr. CPA

The Mercier Group, *a professional corporation*

January 23, 2004

HARDING & BAHR
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

JOHN C. HARDING, C.P.A.
WARREN E. BAHR, C.P.A.

JOHN F. FULLERTON

13 Town West Road
Suite B-3
Plymouth, NH 03264
(603) 536-4441
FAX (603) 536-4442

To the Commissioners
Ashland, New Hampshire

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

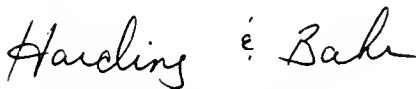
We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Water, Sewer and Electric enterprise fund of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2003, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire and management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in the notes to financial statements, the financial statements present only the Water, Sewer and Electric enterprise fund, and are not intended to present fairly the financial position of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire, and the results of its operations and cash flows of its proprietary fund type in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Water, Sewer and Electric enterprise fund of the Town of Ashland, New Hampshire, as of December 31, 2003, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying combining financial statements listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the enterprise fund financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the enterprise fund financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented, in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.



Plymouth, New Hampshire
January 20, 2004

2004

**ASHLAND
TOWN WARRANT
AND
TOWN BUDGET**

Article 1:

To choose all of the following officers for the year ensuing:

(2)	Selectmen	3 Year Term
(1)	Selectman	1 Year Term
(1)	Town Moderator	2 Year Term
(1)	Town Treasurer	1 Year Term
(1)	Town Trustee	3 Year Term
(1)	Library Trustee	3 Year Term
(1)	Supervisor of Checklist	6 Year Term
(4)	Budget Committee Members	3 Year Term
(1)	Budget Committee Member	1 Year Term
(1)	Electric Commissioner	3 year Term
(1)	Water/Sewer Commissioner	3 year Term

Article 2:

Question 1:

To see what action the town will take on the following proposed amendments to the town's zoning ordinance.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to clarify Article 4.7, Bed & Breakfast? The amendment increases the required parking, establishes specifications for signage and lighting, and clarifies the necessity for state permits. (Majority Vote Required)

YES _____ NO _____

Question 2:

To see what action the town will take on the following proposed amendment to the town's zoning ordinance.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to clarify Article 4.6? This article clarifies the definition of Home Occupation and establishes specifications for advertising, signage, storage of goods and parking. It also permits certain home occupations by special exception when they do not meet all specifications. (Majority Vote Required)

YES _____ NO _____

Question 3:

To see what action the town will take on the following proposed amendment to the town's zoning ordinance.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 to the Ashland Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board to clarify Article 2.4a? This article clarifies the definitions of Soils & Slopes Table and clarifies the necessity for state permits. (Majority Vote Required)

YES _____ NO _____

Question 4:

To see if the town will vote to accept the zoning ordinance for Yard, Garage, Barn Sales and Auctions:

Article 4 Special Provisions

4.8 Yard; Garage, & Barn Sales are permitted in all districts without permit, but only after notification to the Town Office. No such sale or auction may run for more than four consecutive (4) days.

Signage: There are no sign permits required for yard, garage, barn sales, or auctions, however, all signs must be removed within 24 hours of ending the sale. All signs must contain name, address, and telephone number of the sale's host, as well as the date (s) of the sale.

Signs are not permitted on utility poles, or within the public right-of-way. Failure to comply may result in a fine being levied of not more than \$275 a day from date of ordinance violation (RSA 676:17). (Majority Vote Required)

YES _____ NO _____

Article 3:

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred eight thousand three hundred dollars (\$108,300) to purchase a 2004 Highway Truck and authorize the withdrawal of fifty-four thousand dollars (\$54,000) plus interest to date from the Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund and discontinue this fund for this purpose, with the balance of fifty-four thousand three hundred dollars (\$54,300) to come from the town's December 31, 2003 fund balance. To sell or trade in the old truck to help offset the cost of the new truck. No amount to be raised from new taxation for this article. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee does recommend this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 4:

To see if the Town will vote to create a Highway Truck Capital Reserve Fund and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in said fund, said money to come from the 2003 unexpended fund balance. No amount to be raised from new taxation for this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 5:

To see if the Town will vote to create a Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund and to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) to be placed in said fund, said money to come from the 2003 unexpended fund balance. No amount to be raised from new taxation for this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 6:

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the balance of \$178,000 from the borrowing authority granted by Article #3 at the 1996 Town Meeting for the closure of the sanitary landfill. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 7:

To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the existing Ice Skating Rink Capital Reserve Fund and to transfer the funds in the amount of \$5,794.85 plus interest to date into the Town's General Fund. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee does recommend this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 8:

To see if the Town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,794.85 for the construction of a new skating rink at the ballpark. These funds to come from the town's December 31, 2003 fund balance. No amount to be raised from new taxation for this article. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee does recommend this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 9:

To see if the Town will vote to create a capital reserve fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be known as the Sidewalk Fund and to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend for the purpose of placing a sidewalk from the Ashland Mobil along Main Street to Ashland Lumber Company along West Street and further to raise and appropriate the sum of sixteen thousand dollars (\$16,000) to be placed in said fund and to authorize the use of the December 31, 2003 fund balance in that amount for this purpose with no amount to be raised from taxation. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee does not recommend this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 10:

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of repairing West Street and to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend and to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be placed into said fund. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 11:

To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of repairing the River Street Bridge over Squam River and to designate the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend and to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) to be placed into said fund. Said monies are to come from the 2003 unexpended fund balance. No amount to be raised from new taxation for this article. The Board of Selectmen recommend this article. The Budget Committee recommend this article. The Budget Committee does recommend this article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 12:

Shall the Town of Ashland raise and appropriate as an operating budget not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amount set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$4,887,919? Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$5,013,698 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Ashland or by law; the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority Vote Required).

YES _____ NO _____

Article 13:

Are you in favor of changing the term of the town treasurer from one year to 3 years, beginning with the term of the town treasurer to be elected at next year's (2005) regular town meeting?

YES _____ NO _____

Article 14:

Will the Town vote to continue 24-hour police coverage? Non-binding Article.

YES _____ NO _____

Article 15:

To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of its Boards, Commissioners, Committees and Officers for the year 2003 subject to corrections of errors when and if found. (Majority Vote Required).

YES _____ NO _____

Article 16:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the prepayment of property taxes and authorize the Tax Collector to accept such prepayment as provided by RSA 80:52-a. (Majority Vote Required)

YES _____ NO _____

Article 17:

To see if the Town will vote to accept the amended Town Ordinance related to Dogs and other Domestic Animals.

YES _____ **NO** _____

BUDGET OF THE TOWN/CITY

OF: Ashland

BUDGET FORM FOR TOWNS WHICH HAVE ADOPTED
THE PROVISIONS OF RSA 32:14 THROUGH 32:24

Appropriations and Estimates of Revenue for the Ensuing Year January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004

or Fiscal Year From _____ to _____

IMPORTANT:

Please read RSA 32:5 applicable to all municipalities.

1. Use this form to list the entire budget in the appropriate recommended and not recommended area. This means the operating budget and all special and individual warrant articles must be posted.
2. Hold at least one public hearing on this budget.
3. When completed, a copy of the budget must be posted with the warrant. Another copy must be placed on file with the town clerk, and a copy sent to the Department of Revenue Administration at the address below.

This is to certify that this budget was posted with the warrant on the January 23, 2004.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Please sign in ink.

Edith I. Hull
Stephen A. Cohen
Jeanne Sullivan
Ann Marie Reeves
Pamela Ober
Douglas Ober

William B. Hill
Daniel Sullivan
Heather H. Bowers
Christine J. York

THIS BUDGET SHALL BE POSTED WITH THE TOWN WARRANT

FOR DRA USE ONLY

NH DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION
MUNICIPAL FINANCE BUREAU
P.O. BOX 487, CONCORD, NH 03302-0487
(603)271-3397

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)		Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA		Actual Expenditures Prior Year		SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year (RECOMMENDED) (NOT RECOMMENDED)		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED NOT RECOMMENDED	
	GENERAL GOVERNMENT		XXXXXXX		XXXXXXX		XXXXXXX		XXXXXXX	
4130-4139	Executive		3630	4080	5768				5768	
4140-4149	Election, Reg. & Vital Statistics		24701	23440	29576				29576	
4150-4151	Financial Administration		215959	176792	220124				195125	24999
4152	Revaluation of Property		62725	50073	32001				32001	
4153	Legal Expense		25000	5662	15000				10000	5000
4155-4159	Personnel Administration		3623	20	1				1	
4191-4193	Planning & Zoning		4745	2164	2800				2800	
4194	General Government Buildings		55403	53399	34100				34100	
4195	Cemeteries		400	200	400				400	
4196	Insurance		56600	54689	57278				57278	
4197	Advertising & Regional Assoc.		1770	1770	1770				1770	
4199	Other General Government		15000	3491	15000				10000	5000
PUBLIC SAFETY										
4210-4214	Police		448103	448064	450972				450972	
4215-4219	Ambulance		25380	25380	30000				28241	1759
4220-4229	Fire		105879	103163	131046				131046	
4240-4249	Building Inspection		5710	5525	7099				7099	
4290-4298	Emergency Management		3000	315	3000				3000	
4299	Other (Including Communications)									
AIRPORT/AVIATION CENTER										
4301-4309	Airport Operations									
HIGHWAYS & STREETS										
4311	Administration		152624	143948	183812				183812	
4312	Highways & Streets		178086	105335	185085				185085	
4313	Bridges		600	370	600				600	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3.V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA	Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year (RECOMMENDED)	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year (NOT RECOMMENDED)	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year RECOMMENDED	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year NOT RECOMMENDED
HIGHWAYS & STREETS cont.								
4316	Street Lighting		41400	38898	37400	1000	38400	
4319	Other -Mechanic		55011	55279	58588		58588	
SANITATION								
4321	Administration							
4323	Solid Waste Collection							
4324	Solid Waste Disposal		139118	143950	177238		174270	2968
4325	Solid Waste Clean-up							
4326-4329	Sewage Coll. & Disposal & Other							
WATER DISTRIBUTION & TREATMENT								
4331	Administration							
4332	Water Services							
4335-4339	Water Treatment, Conserv.& Other							
ELECTRIC								
4351-4352	Admin. and Generation							
4353	Purchase Costs							
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance							
4359	Other Electric Costs							
HEALTH/WELFARE								
4411	Administration		1596	1367	1446		1446	
4414	Pest Control		3600	2235	3800		3300	500
4415-4419	Health Agencies & Hosp. & Other							
4441-4442	Administration & Direct Asslst.		18431	22477	23229		23229	
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Pymnts							
4445-4449	Vendor Payments & Other		20651	18436	20502	2480	22982	

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

ACCT.#	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)		Appropriations Prior Year As Approved by DRA		Actual Expenditures Prior Year		SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year (RECOMMENDED)		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS Ensuing Fiscal Year (NOT RECOMMENDED)	
	CULTURE & RECREATION		XXXXXXX		XXXXXXX		XXXXXXX		XXXXXXX	
4520-4529	Parks & Recreation		209554	188440	142377			141977		400
4550-4559	Library		41000	41000	42000	2225		44225		
4583	Patriotic Purposes		4800	4501	5930			5930		
4589	Other Culture & Recreation		648	646	648			648		
CONSERVATION										
4611-4612	Admin.& Purch. of Nat. Resources		610	610	850			850		
4619	Other Conservation									
4631-4632	REDEVELOPMNT & HOUSING									
4651-4659	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT									
DEBT SERVICE										
4711	Princ.- Long Term Bonds & Notes		260204	267410	302232			302232		
4721	Interest-Long Term Bonds & Notes		157506	157390	160279			160279		
4723	Int. on Tax Anticipation Notes		1	370	1			1		
4790-4799	Other Debt Service									
CAPITAL OUTLAY										
4901	Land-Beach		87725	87725	0			0		
4902	Machinery, Vehicles & Equipment		29828	28827	28827			28827		
4903	Buildings									
4909	Improvements Other Than Bldgs.		400,000	400,000						
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT										
4912	To Special Revenue Fund									
4913	To Capital Projects Fund									
4914	To Enterprise Fund									
	Sewer-		270789	270789	249815			246316		3499
	Water-		165037	165037	162362			158863		3499

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

ACCT. #	PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATIONS (RSA 32:3,V)	Warr. Art.#	Appropriations		Actual Expenditures Prior Year	SELECTMEN'S APPROPRIATIONS		BUDGET COMMITTEE'S APPROPRIATIONS	
			Prior Year As Approved by DRA			(RECOMMENDED)	Ensuing Fiscal Year (NOT RECOMMENDED)	RECOMMENDED	Ensuing Fiscal Year NOT RECOMMENDED
OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT cont.									
	Electric-		2161176		2161176	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
	Airport-								
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund		9000		9000				
4916	To Exp.Tr.Fund-except #4917								
4917	To Health Maint. Trust Funds								
4918	To Nonexpendable Trust Funds								
4919	To Agency Funds								
SUBTOTAL 1			5466623		5273443	4924840	5705	4877422	53123

If you have a line item of appropriations from more than one warrant article, please use the space below to identify the make-up of the line total for the ensuing year.

1

2

3

4

5

6

ACCT.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art.#	Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
TAXES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3120	Land Use Change Taxes				
3180	Resident Taxes				
3185	Timber Taxes		6890	7187	5000
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes		41000	37838	38000
3189	Other Taxes				
3190	Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes		45000	47680	45000
	Inventory Penalties				
3187	Excavation Tax (\$.02 cents per cu yd)		34		50
LICENSES, PERMITS & FEES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3210	Business Licenses & Permits		3450	4503	3200
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees		218500	265713	227500
3230	Building Permits		6685	9543	7795
3290	Other Licenses, Permits & Fees		2400	2670	2375
3311-3319	FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT				
FROM STATE			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3351	Shared Revenues		34000	69044	34500
3352	Meals & Rooms Tax Distribution		38000	58633	40000
3353	Highway Block Grant		40409	44410	44800
3354	Water Pollution Grant		40000	73689	40000
3355	Housing & Community Development				
3356	State & Federal Forest Land Reimbursement		114	114	100
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement				
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)			1138	0
3379	FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS		1500	1622	1000
CHARGES FOR SERVICES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3401-3406	Income from Departments		96500	88728	104900
3409	Other Charges			5000	5000
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		4200	19085	
3502	Interest on Investments		5000	6231	5000
3503-3509	Other		30000	21510	23900
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3912	From Special Revenue Funds				
3913	From Capital Projects Funds				

1	2	3	4	5	6
ACCT.#	SOURCE OF REVENUE	Warr. Art.#	Estimated Revenues Prior Year	Actual Revenues Prior Year	Estimated Revenues Ensuing Year
INTERFUND OPERATING TRANSFERS IN cont.			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3914	From Enterprise Funds				
	Sewer - (Offset)		270789	270789	246316
	Water - (Offset)		165037	165037	158863
	Electric - (Offset)		2161176	2161176	2096385
	Airport - (Offset)				
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds			10939	59795
3916	From Trust & Agency Funds				
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXX
3934	Proc. from Long Term Bonds & Notes		400000	400000	
Amounts VOTED From F/B ("Surplus")			0		115095
Fund Balance ("Surplus") to Reduce Taxes			0		
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE & CREDITS			3614684	3772279	3304574

****BUDGET SUMMARY****

	PRIOR YEAR ADOPTED BUDGET	SELECTMEN'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET	BUDGET COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET
UBTOTAL 1 Appropriations Recommended (from pg. 5)	5466623	4924840	4877422
UBTOTAL 2 Special Warrant Articles Recommended (from pg. 6)	Included In #1	131000	115000
UBTOTAL 3 "Individual" Warrant Articles Recommended (from pg. 6)	Included In #1	114095	114095
TOTAL Appropriations Recommended	5466623	5169935	5106517
Less: Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits (from above)	3614634	3304574	3304574
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	1851989	1865361	1801943

Maximum Allowable Increase to Budget Committee's Recommended Budget per RSA 32:18: \$438,608
 (See Supplemental Schedule With 10% Calculation)

BUDGET COMMITTEE SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

(For Calculating 10% Maximum Increase)

(RSA 32:18, 19, & 32:21)

VERSION #1: Use if you have no Collective Bargaining Cost Items or RSA 32:21 Water Costs

LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNIT: ASHLAND

FISCAL YEAR END 12/31/04

	RECOMMENDED AMOUNT
1. Total RECOMMENDED by Budget Comm. (See Posted Budget MS7, 27, or 37)	4877422
LESS EXCLUSIONS:	302232
2. Principal: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	
3. Interest: Long-Term Bonds & Notes	160279
4. Capital Outlays Funded From Long-Term Bonds & Notes per RSA 33:8 & 33:7-b.	28827
5. Mandatory Assessments	
6. Total exclusions (Sum of rows 2 - 5)	< 491338 >
7. Amount recommended less recommended exclusion amounts (line 1 less line 6)	4386484
8. Line 7 times 10%	438608
9. Maximum Allowable Appropriations (lines 1 + 8)	4825092

Line 8 is the maximum allowable increase to budget committee's recommended budget. Please enter this amount on the bottom of the posted budget form, MS7, 27, or 37.

Please attach a copy of this completed supplemental schedule to the back of the budget form.

DATES TO REMEMBER

1-Jan	Fiscal Year Begins
31-Jan	Deliberative Session of 2004 Town Meeting Ashland School Gymnasium - 1 PM
4-Feb	Deliberative Session of 2004 Pemi-Baker School District Meeting Plymouth Regional High School - 6:30 PM
4-Mar	Ashland School District Meeting Ashland School Gymnasium - 7 PM
9-Mar	SB2 Official Balloting/Town and School Officers Election Ashland School Gymnasium 9PM to 7PM
1-Apr	All real property assessed to owner
15-Apr	Last day to file for religious, educational and charitable organizations to file annual list of all exempt property with assessing officials. Refusal to file may be grounds for denial.
15-Apr	Last day to file "Report of Cut" for 2002-2003 year
15-Apr	Last day to file Current Use Application for 2004 year
30-Apr	2003 Dog Tags Expire - Renew with Town Clerk
1-Jul	First Issue 2004 Tax Bill due
1-Aug	Deadline for Elderly Exemption Application
1-Dec	Second Issue 2004 Tax Bill due

MEETING SCHEDULES

*Subject to change with notice

Board of Selectmen	First Third Monday of the Month 7PM - Ashland School Cafeteria
Planning Board	First Third Wednesday of the Month 7PM - Ashland School Cafeteria
Board of Adjustment	Meetings Scheduled as Needed Posted in Post Office and Town Office
Conservation Comm.	First Wednesday of the Month 7PM - Ashland Town Hall
Housing Standards	Called as needed Posted in Post Office and Town Office
Budget Committee	Called as needed Posted in Post Office and Town Office
Electric Commissioners	Second and Fourth Tuesday of the Month 10 AM - Utility Office
Water Sewer Comm	First and Third Thursday of the Month 9AM - Utility Office